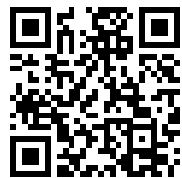

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

SWAZILAND, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see No. 1501 (price 6d.)
and No. 1553 (price 9d.) respectively.)

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I. GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Swaziland lies between the eastern slopes of the Drakensberg mountains, which form the eastern border of the Transvaal, and the low-lying lands of Northern Zululand and Portuguese East Africa.

It is bounded on the north, west, and south by the Transvaal, and on the east by Portuguese territory and Tongaland, now part of the Natal Province, and is about the size of Wales, its area being 6,704 square miles. . . A little more than one-third of the territory is native area and the remainder is owned by Europeans.

The territory is divided geographically into three longitudinal regions roughly of equal breadth, running from north to south, and known locally as the high, middle, and low or bush veld. The high veld portion adjoining the eastern Transvaal consists of mountains, part of the Drakensberg range. These mountains rise in parts to an altitude of over 5,000 feet.

* In this Report the Financial Statements, which are for the year ended 31st March, 1932, are preliminary and not completely audited. All other details are for the calendar year 1931.

The middle veld is about 2,000 feet lower, while the bush veld, bounded on the east by the Ubombo mountains, has a height of from 300 to 1,000 feet rising on the Ubombo mountains to 1,500 feet.

Climate.

Both the rainfall and the temperature vary considerably with the altitude of the meteorological stations, which are under the control of the Chief Meteorologist of the Union Government. The average rainfall at two stations was :—

Mbabane (3,800 feet), 55.66 inches over 26 years.

Bremersdorp (2,175 feet), 36.81 inches over 26 years.

The mean summer and winter temperatures were 67·1° Fahr. and 58·4° Fahr. respectively at Mbabane, and 73·4° Fahr. and 64·2° Fahr. respectively at Bremersdorp.

History.

The Swazis are akin to the Zulu and other tribes of the south-eastern littoral. Up to about 100 years ago they occupied the country just north of the Pongola river, but a hostile Chief in their vicinity forced them farther north and, under Chief Sobhuza, they then occupied the territory now known as Swaziland. This Chief, who died in 1839, was succeeded by Mswazi II. The further order of succession has been Ludonga, Mbandeni, and Bhunu, whose son, Sobhuza II, was installed as Paramount Chief in 1921 after a long minority, during which his grandmother, Labotsibeni, acted as Regent.

The many concessions granted by Mbandeni necessitated some form of European control, notwithstanding that the independence of the Swazis had been guaranteed in the Conventions of 1881 and 1884 entered into between the Government of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria and the Government of the late South African Republic. In 1890, soon after the death of Mbandeni, a Provisional Government was established representative of the Swazis, and of the British and South African Republic Governments. In 1894, under a Convention between the British and the South African Republic Governments, the latter was given powers of protection and administration, without incorporation, and Swaziland continued to be governed under this form of control until the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899.

In 1902, after the conclusion of hostilities in the Transvaal, a Special Commissioner took charge, and, under an Order in Council (1903), the Governor of the Transvaal administered the territory, through a local officer until the year 1907, when, under an Order in Council (1906), the High Commissioner assumed control and established the present form of administration. Prior to this, steps had been taken for the settlement of the concessions and their partition between the concessionaires and the natives. The boundaries

of the mineral concessions were also defined and all monopoly concessions were expropriated. Title to property is therefore now clear. In this connexion a case brought by the Paramount Chief was dismissed, on appeal, by the Privy Council (1926).

II.—GOVERNMENT.

By an Order in Council dated 1st December, 1906, Swaziland was placed directly under the control of the High Commissioner for South Africa, and a Proclamation was issued in March, 1907 (the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907), providing for the appointment of a Resident Commissioner, a Government Secretary, and Assistant Commissioners, and the establishment of a Police Force.

The Resident Commissioner exercises such administration and control and is invested with all such powers, authorities, and jurisdiction as are conferred upon him by the said Proclamation, or any other law, or by the terms of his commission, subject always to the directions and instructions of the High Commissioner.

Advisory Council.

An elected Advisory Council, representative of the Europeans, was established in 1921, to advise the Administration on European affairs. The territory is divided into two electoral divisions, one north and one south of the Great Usutu River.

The fourth Council was elected in 1928, and consists of five members for South Swaziland, and four members for North Swaziland. Meetings of this Council are held at least twice a year.

A committee of the Council, consisting of four members, two from each electoral division, meets whenever convened by the Resident Commissioner himself or by him at the request of any two members. This Committee advises on any important matters which may arise from time to time between the usual meetings of the Council.

Native Council.

The Council is composed of the Indunas of the nation under the presidency of the Induna of the Paramount Chief's kraal. They advise the Paramount Chief on administrative and judicial affairs of State. Meetings of the Council with the Resident Commissioner are held from time to time.

Meetings of District Officials with Native Chiefs.

The regular monthly meetings between District Officers and native Chiefs and their followers are an opportunity for discussing difficulties and have established a good understanding between the Administration and the natives.

Advisory Committees on Townships.

These are held monthly. The Committees are elected by the owners of stands in the various townships. The Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Assistant Commissioner presides.

School Advisory Committees.

Members are elected for any public school by parents resident in Swaziland who, at the time of election, have one or more children on the roll of such school. When convenient one Committee may be elected to represent two or more schools situated in the same district. The Committees have certain powers and duties in connexion with compulsory education under Proclamation No. 7 of 1920.

School Boards.

The members of these Boards consist of members of School Committees in the district, each School Committee having the right to elect one of its members to be on such Board. The Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the district is the chairman. The duties of Boards are laid down in the Compulsory Education Proclamation (No. 7 of 1920). They advise the Administration in all matters connected with the provision of schools and school accommodation in each district; also on other educational matters affecting Europeans.

III.—POPULATION.

No census of the population has been held since May, 1921. The figures were then :—

Europeans	...	...	...	2,205
Natives (Bantu)	...	...	...	110,295
Coloured (other than Bantu)	...	...	...	451
Total	...	...	...	112,951

The population is estimated now to be :—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Europeans	1,315	1,335	2,650
Natives (Bantu)	57,450	62,550	120,000
Coloured (other than Bantu)	370	290	660
Indians	10	—	10
Totals	59,145	64,175	123,320

About 83 per cent of the Bantu population resides in native areas and about 17 per cent. on European-owned land.

No statistics are available with regard to the nationality of the European races.

There is no registration of births, marriages, and deaths of the Bantu population.

Amongst the European population there were :—

(a) Births	...	...	77 or 29·06 per 1,000
(b) Marriages	...	...	12 or 4·53 per 1,000
(c) Deaths	...	...	21 or 7·92 per 1,000
(d) Infantile Mortality			
	(Deaths under one year)		2 or 0·73 per 1,000
(e) European Emigrants	...		100 or 37·73 per 1,000 of European population.
(f) European Immigrants	...		120 or 45·27 per 1,000 of European population.

IV.—HEALTH.

Administration.

The European medical staff consisted of the Principal Medical Officer, two Government Medical Officers, two doctors (subsidized), three Hospital Assistants and Dispensers, two female nurses, two female nurses (subsidized).

The native staff consisted of seven male nurses, five female nurses, three male orderlies, two laundresses, and one cook.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue earned by the Medical Department was £142 7s. 6d. The expenditure was £9,764.

Public Health.

The general health of the community was better than the average, but it was marred by outbreaks of enteric and an epidemic of whooping cough amongst native children in the northern half of the territory.

General Diseases.—Epilepsy and asthma are extraordinarily prevalent amongst the natives, and in the variable climate of the western highlands, rheumatism and chest complaints are common. A fair number of cases of pneumonia appear here but the disease is not of a virulent type. Scurvy occurs, especially at the end of winter and the beginning of spring when green food is scarce. With this disease is associated occasionally a peculiar swollen, blistered, and bleeding condition of the mucous membrane of the tongue, gums, and cheek in which the patient is unable to talk or swallow, and seems “in extremis,” and yet recovers with amazing rapidity when a little fresh orange juice is persistently dropped into the mouth.

A few cases of pellagra occur every year but is never seen in an aggravated form. Gastro-intestinal diseases amongst children, especially during the hot days of the summer, form by far the greatest single cause of out-patient attendances at the Mbabane Hospital. Scabies is still very prevalent amongst the native children. Goitre is fairly common and the most remarkable fact about this

disease is its tendency to restrict itself largely to certain well defined areas. The Principal Medical Officer reports that he has never seen a case of exophthalmic goitre in a native.

Communicable Diseases.—*Mosquito- or insect-borne.*—The only one is malaria, and one compensation for an abnormally dry season and consequent failure of crops was an almost complete absence of this disease during the year.

Infectious Diseases.—Enteric was a source of great trouble in certain areas. Around Bremersdorp there was a very sharp outbreak in the first three months of the year, and at Mahamba, in the Hlatikulu district, cases cropped up during the whole year; in addition, the Medical Officer, Hlatikulu, reports that sporadic cases occurred all over his district. Preventive inoculation was done on a considerable scale. A few cases of amoebic dysentery occur every year but this disease is not a serious factor.

Tuberculosis is increasing slowly amongst the natives. The Medical Officer at Hlatikulu comments on the large number of gland cases he sees amongst children, and the medical missionaries on the number of bone and joint cases they see. There is a certain amount of leprosy in certain areas; fortunately practically all the cases belong to the nerve type and spontaneous cure in the course of time is common.

Helminthic Diseases.—Taeniasis is very common, and cases of ascariasis are frequent.

Schistosomiasis haematobium is common all over the country below the 3,000 feet level. Infected natives come freely for injections of antimony tartrate but it is more difficult to persuade them to complete a course of treatment than to complete a course of anti-syphilitic treatment, while any attempt to explain the life history of the helminth causing the disease and to point out a means of preventing it is met with blank incredulity. Fortunately ankylostomiasis is unknown in the territory.

Hygiene and Sanitation.

Mosquito- and insect-borne diseases.—Malaria is the only one. As the native population is widely scattered over the territory effective measures of drainage or of oiling or otherwise dealing with pools, undertaken on such a scale as to benefit the whole area liable to infection, would be so costly as to render them prohibitive.

Epidemic Diseases.—Plague, cholera, typhus, and relapsing fever do not occur. The incidence of the enteric group of diseases could be diminished considerably in the townships if adequate supplies of pure water were made available. This applies especially to Bremersdorp where the disease was prevalent for some months. Such measures are not feasible in the native areas under present conditions, but fortunately use can be made of the extraordinary faith the natives have in any form of inoculation either as a cure

or as a preventive for any form of disease. Although they will make no attempt to get a pure water-supply, or to erect sanitary conveniences, or to reduce the plague of flies at their homes, they will cheerfully submit to inoculation and advantage has been fully taken of this by both the Government Medical Officers and the medical missionaries in dealing with outbreaks of enteric.

Helminthic Diseases.—It is hard to convince natives that measly pork is the cause of tape-worm, and even when convinced they will take no precautions. Their pigs are never kept in sties but are allowed to scavenge around the kraal and are invariably infected with measles.

The remarks made about the control of the enteric group of diseases apply to the control of schistosomiasis. The disease is especially prevalent in and around Bremersdorp, and the provision of a proper water-supply in that township would eliminate a large percentage of the cases.

General Measures of Sanitation.

In townships, the common means of dealing with sewage is the bucket one. The system is in charge of Town Inspectors. A few large buildings such as hotels and a few of the large private houses have septic tanks. Outside the townships the system usually adopted by Europeans is to have deep pits suitably covered. The natives make no attempts to erect sanitary conveniences. Refuse is collected, put in pits and periodically burned.

Water-supplies.

The source of the Mbabane water-supply is a mountain stream from the end of which the water is led by an open furrow four and a-half miles long with an earth storage dam whence the unfiltered water is conveyed in pipes to parts of the township. It is the common supply of drinking water for resident and visiting natives and it is remarkable that there has been no epidemic of water-borne disease amongst them. The drinking supply of the European residents comes from springs which are suitably protected and cemented. These are bacteriologically tested at intervals.

Medical Officers have reported adversely on the water-supply of Bremersdorp on several occasions. The series of dry seasons caused the complete drying up of the small reservoir which was constructed there about ten years ago. For some years the supply was adequate for the few householders in the village, but now, even if continually full, it would be inadequate for the needs of this growing township. With the drying up of the reservoir the inhabitants have been compelled to draw water from the Umzimnene River which is utterly unsuitable bacteriologically and, in addition, is probably more infested by bilharzia than any other stream in the territory. It is no wonder that epidemics of water-borne

diseases are frequent and that practically all the children suffer from schistosomiasis. A scheme has been drawn up to provide Bremersdorp with a supply of pure water and is now under consideration.

School Hygiene.

It was unfortunate for progress in this line that Dr. Pilot, who held a degree in Public Health, and who was to be available for public health duties all over the territory, died so soon after his appointment. It was his intention to introduce into the native schools some instruction on elementary hygiene, and to give the native school teachers a much better knowledge of the subject than they now possess and so enable them to impart this knowledge with greater authority to the children. At present all that is attempted by the Medical Department is a short series of lectures to the native school teachers assembled in conference.

In the large schools, especially many of those conducted by the Missionary Societies, the sanitary conditions are quite good and the authorities in charge of the schools are most solicitous concerning the general health and bodily welfare of the children.

The establishment of the Swazi National School at Matapa has given the whole territory an example of the general lines on which schools should be planned, from the health as well as from the educational point of view, and the influence of this example cannot fail to expand from year to year. It is hoped that next year it may be possible to have a course of lectures on elementary physiology, hygiene, etc., at this institution.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There is no special organization for dealing with this, but there are a few very gratifying tendencies to be noticed in the attitude of the native women.

One is that native women are gradually beginning to come into hospital voluntarily for their confinement; until recently such a thing was unheard of. Another is the fact that still larger numbers come to be examined during the later months of pregnancy to find out whether everything is progressing normally and satisfactorily. Yet another is the way pregnant women who have suffered from syphilis come to be treated during pregnancy and bring their children afterwards for examination and treatment, if that is necessary. Fortunately, most native women breast-feed their children, but they have a deplorable habit of supplementing it from the beginning with maize porridge even though the natural food is ample.

Where artificial feeding is necessary cows' milk is usually used and it is surprising to find how often a genuine effort is made to keep the bottle clean.

Hospital Dispensaries and Venereal Clinics.

The new hospital at Mbabane was opened early in October and has been full ever since. It requires further additions before it can become a thoroughly satisfactory institution.

The Hlatikulu Hospital is handicapped very much by lack of sufficient accommodation. The increasing volume of work done there is indicated by the great increase in the number of out-patients, and if the accommodation were available there would be a similar increase in the number of in-patients.

The work done by the Mankaiana Dispensary was practically double that of the previous year.

Excellent work has been done by the Church of the Nazarene Mission at Bremersdorp with its dispensaries at Stegi and Pigg's Peak, and by the Wesleyan Mission Hospital at Mahamba with its dispensary at Hluti. Both are to be complimented on the high standard of the work performed, and the character and professional attainments of the members of their staff.

The Venereal clinics continue to do excellent work. The one at Mbabane dealt with about the same number of cases as last year. The clinic at Bremersdorp did a greatly increased amount of work due largely to many patients being sent for treatment from the Stegi district where little anti-venereal work is undertaken.

A new clinic was opened during the year at Goedgegun in the Hlatikulu district. It is visited once a month by the Medical Officer from Hlatikulu. He reports that the natives do not avail themselves of this opportunity for treatment as they might be expected to do and, like all other medical practitioners in the territory, he has great difficulty in convincing them of the necessity for continuing the treatment of syphilis after all outward signs of the disease have disappeared.

Prisons and Asylums.

Mental cases are sent to Union institutions at the cost of the Swaziland Administration.

The health of prisoners was, as usual, excellent.

The new gaol premises at Hlatikulu were completed.

Two new cells were built at Stegi but further improved accommodation is still required.

Return of Diseases and Deaths (In-patients) for the year 1931.

The following figures show the prevalence and mortality arising from the principal groups of diseases. These figures are compiled from the combined Mbabane and Hlatikulu Hospital returns. The

diseases mentioned occurred almost entirely amongst the native peasants :—

Infectious Diseases.

Total incidence 309

The principal diseases were :—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	48·87	per cent.
Malaria	...	...	...	...	11·33	do.
Enteric	...	...	...	...	8·74	do.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	6·15	do.
Influenza	...	...	...	...	5·18	do.
Infective diseases of skin and cellular tissues	...	...	...	...	4·20	do.
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3·23	do.
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	2·91	do.
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	9·38	do.

The total deaths from infective diseases were 12 divided as follows :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	25	per cent.
Enteric	...	...	...	...	25	do.
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	8·33	do.
Inflammation of cellular tissues	...	...	...	...	8·33	do.
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	8·33	do.
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	8·33	do.
Puerperal Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	16·66	do.

General Systemic and Preventable Diseases.

Total incidence 193

divided as follows :—

Preventable diseases	...	...	...	...	46·63	per cent.
Genito-urinary non-venereal	...	...	...	...	15·54	do.
Puerperal state	...	...	...	...	7·25	do.
Disorders of the digestive system	...	...	...	...	5·70	do.
General diseases	...	...	...	...	5·18	do.
Nervous system and organs of the senses	...	...	...	...	4·14	do.
Affections of the circulatory system	...	...	...	...	3·63	do.
Diseases of bones and organs of locomotion	...	...	...	...	3·11	do.
Diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	2·59	do.
Diseases of skin and cellular tissues	...	...	...	...	2·07	do.
Ill-defined and undeveloped diseases	...	...	...	...	4·14	do.

The total deaths from general systemic and preventable diseases were nine, divided as follows :—

Wounds by cutting or stabbing instruments	...	...	...	...	...	33·33 per cent.
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.
Affections of infancy	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.
Injuries inflicted by animals	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	11·1 do.

The following figures show the number of cases treated at the various centres.

	<i>In-patients.</i>		<i>Out-patients.</i>	
Government Institutions—				
Mbabane Hospital	323	6,797
Hlatikulu Hospital	179	8,230
Mankaiana Dispensary	Nil	1,888
Mission Institutions—				
Bremersdorp Hospital	452	6,114
Mahamba Hospital	214	1,717
Endingeni Dispensary	40	3,012
Pigg's Peak Dispensary	80	2,433
Stegi Dispensary	48	1,177
			<hr/> 1,336	<hr/> 31,368

The chief diseases amongst the out-patients were gynecological affections in women, gastro-intestinal complaints, rheumatism, bronchitis, epilepsy, asthma, syphilis, and minor injuries in the adults of both sexes, and whooping cough, gastro-intestinal affections, and scabies amongst the children.

Miscellaneous.

Six doctors were in practice at the end of the year.

Three dentists are registered for practice in Swaziland but do not reside in the territory.

One chemist was in practice at the end of the year and twelve nurses and midwives.

V.—HOUSING.

EUROPEANS IN URBAN AREAS.

The promulgation of the Urban Areas Regulations in 1930 set a standard for new buildings. No buildings can be erected until the plans have been submitted to and approved by the Advisory Boards of the various townships. The result of this can be seen in the improved standard of the new buildings. There are still many unsightly old buildings, of which some provided for European

officials are of a poor type. At Mbabane and Hlatikulu most of the European Police live in wood and iron buildings which are very cold in winter and very hot in summer. In the urban areas sanitary arrangements are good and well controlled, with the exception of one township where a proper sanitary system is now being installed. Regular inspections are carried out by the Town Inspectors.

In recent years many excellent houses have been built on farms, but the poorer European classes, especially those on smallholdings or squatting on large farms belonging to others, live in abject hovels constructed of turf walls, earthen floors and thatched roofs. The sanitary arrangements are defective and, in many cases, non-existent.

UNEDUCATED NATIVES IN RURAL AREAS.

So long as the native lives under native conditions there is no such thing as overcrowding. Most of the natives live in huts of a beehive shape. They consist of a wattle framework covered with thatch, the only opening being a very low door. The earthen floors are hammered and polished and impervious to damp. Each married woman has her own hut and, in a kraal or collection of these huts, there are huts allotted to the youths and unmarried males and others to the unmarried females above the age of puberty. A kraal usually consists of the huts of one man, his wives, his unmarried daughters and his sons, both married and unmarried, and the wives and children of married sons. That there is a considerable amount of ventilation is shown by the amount of smoke that can be seen passing through the thatch from the fire within. The huts, however, have the defect of not admitting sunlight, but as they are used only as sleeping places and shelters from the rain, and as every possible minute of the daylight is spent in the open, this is not a very great drawback.

A regrettable change for the worse takes place in cases when the native begins to rise a little in the social scale and to imitate European housing conditions. He then erects a small rectangular building of sundried bricks or of wattle and daub; the walls are too low; the floor is of earth and cannot be kept clean and is damp in wet weather; the windows are small holes and frequently boarded over. These small buildings are divided into a living room and a sleeping room, both too small, and the inhabitants lie either on the damp earthen floor or on home-made wooden bedsteads under conditions far more liable to harbour biting insects than the polished impervious floor of the grass hut, the sleeping mat, and the blanket of the ordinary native.

Two other points in favour of the grass huts are:—first, when the native for any reason, often the occurrence of an unusual amount of sickness in his kraal, wishes to move, this is a simple matter as he simply constructs new huts in another place; and second, as there is practically always a small fire in the sleeping huts, there is a certain amount of smoke and this keeps off mosquitoes.

The economic condition of the ordinary natives is such that they cannot afford to build proper houses and, until they have attained such a condition and have learned how to build proper houses and live in them properly, they are much better off under their primitive tribal housing conditions. The natives make no effort to erect sanitary conveniences.

EURAFRICANS IN RURAL AREAS.

These are divided into those who prefer to live under European conditions and erect and occupy the same type of dwelling, and those who prefer to live on native areas under the same conditions as native peasants.

EDUCATED NATIVES IN URBAN AREAS.

For the most part these natives live in the same kind of dwellings as the poorer whites and there are the same defects in the sanitary conditions.

Housing of Wage-earning Population.

EUROPEANS IN RURAL AREAS.

These represent approximately 5 per cent. of the total number of wage-earners, the remainder being natives. The housing of these wage-earners is usually of the same type as that of their masters—rooms with brick, stone, or corrugated iron walls, roofed with corrugated iron or thatch, with wooden, concrete, or earthen floors, and furnished with enough doors and windows to give sufficient air and light. On the whole their quarters are fairly good. Generally there are no bathrooms provided for wage-earners.

EURAFRICANS IN RURAL AREAS.

The housing for Eurafricans in rural areas is much the same as that for European wage-earners.

EUROPEANS IN URBAN AREAS.

In urban areas the housing is generally of the same type as that described for rural areas. There are regulations in force dealing with sanitation and overcrowding in the case of all inhabitants, but bathroom accommodation is by no means general.

NATIVES IN RURAL AREAS.

The general rule is that native wage-earners live in huts of the same type as those in use in their home dwellings.

NATIVES IN URBAN AREAS.

The better educated native wage-earners prefer to live under European conditions and to erect and occupy the same type of house. It is, therefore, likely that the native hut will gradually disappear in urban areas.

OWNERSHIP OF WAGE-EARNERS' QUARTERS.

In practically all cases the quarters are owned by the masters but, in few cases, the native servants sleep at their own kraals.

ACTION TOWARDS AMELIORATION.

The enforcement of sanitary laws in urban areas, the spread of knowledge of hygiene in schools, and the example of European missionaries and masters are the only means operating to improve conditions. Until conditions improve in their homes, the Swazi wage-earners are likely to prefer housing conditions at their place of employment which most closely approximate to those at their own kraals. Considerable improvement has taken place amongst the better educated natives in their homes and the effect is noticeable in their demand for better conditions when they take to wage-earning life.

There are no building societies in the territory.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Veterinary.

Contagious Diseases.

East Coast Fever.—During the year the quarantine was raised from all areas in Swaziland and the country is now free of this disease. The last death from east coast fever occurred in April, 1930.

East coast fever first occurred in Swaziland during the Anglo-Boer war, about 1901. The disease spread throughout the length and breadth of the middle and high veld, but, for some unexplainable reason, it did not penetrate to the bush veld.

Systematic and thorough dipping of all cattle, with hand-dressing in the infected areas, and the co-operation of all members of the community have been the means of conquering the disease.

Experience has shown that unaccountable outbreaks may occur in areas considered clean, it is therefore inadvisable to relax any measure in the prevention of the disease until it is proved beyond a doubt that the infection has completely disappeared.

At every dipping tank a register is kept. All cattle are counted every dipping day and entered in the register. All deaths and births are recorded and any discrepancy in numbers is inquired into. This is done so that any deaths from east coast fever, which may not be reported, can be discovered. During the year, owing to scarcity

of grazing and watering, it was impossible to continue dipping at intervals of seven days and, in most parts of the territory, dipping was only carried out at intervals of fourteen days. This is not sufficient to keep east coast fever in check and as no outbreaks occurred it is further proof that unknown areas of infection do not exist.

Scab.—During the year four outbreaks of scab were reported. During the months of March, April, and May all the native sheep in the midlands and highlands were dipped.

A large number of native-owned sheep and goats are dipped regularly every seven or fourteen days with the cattle. This keeps scab in check and also gets rid of a large number of ticks. The improvement in these regularly dipped animals is marked.

Anthrax.—Forty-seven deaths occurred. Outbreaks of this disease have become more frequent during the last few years, the reason being, in the opinion of the Principal Veterinary Officer, the abnormally low rainfall which has caused large areas to become denuded of grass, resulting in soil erosion which probably exposes more easily the spores lying in the ground and thus favourable conditions for their development occur.

Fortunately with the present day method of vaccination the outbreaks are easily controlled and the mortality kept low.

2,390 cattle were vaccinated free of charge.

Contagious Abortion.—Very few cases of this disease occurred. It does not assume alarming proportions and very little is done ; in fact in a native country where there are common grazing areas and drinking pools, where cattle from a large area gather, it is impossible to do very much against this disease.

No other contagious diseases have occurred.

Non-Contagious Diseases.

Black-quarter.—This disease was not so prevalent during this year, probably due to the very dry conditions. 5,345 doses of black-quarter vaccine were issued. Native-owned cattle are inoculated free of charge.

Heartwater.—This appears to be on the increase and the Principal Veterinary Officer thinks it is due to the increase of cattle. There were more deaths, but the percentage of deaths is no greater.

Sweating Sickness.—This disease was no worse than in former years.

Horse Sickness.—This disease was not very severe during the year.

Dipping Tanks.—There were 169 dipping tanks in operation during the year, consisting of 93 Government tanks, 16 private tanks under the control of the Government, and 60 private tanks under the control of the owners.

Cattle.—There were 372,462 head of cattle in the territory at the end of the year ; of these Europeans owned 61,222 and natives owned 311,240.

Export of Cattle.—7,908 head of cattle were exported for slaughter during the year, viz. :—

To Johannesburg	...	...	...	...	3,424
To Durban	...	...	...	...	1,776
To Durban Cold Storage (the beef being exported overseas)	...	...	...	...	2,708

The average price obtained on the Johannesburg and Durban markets was approximately £5 per head and the average price for scrub cattle sold to the Cold Storage was £3.

The market for scrub, or underweight cattle, was closed towards the end of the year as the oversea contract had been fulfilled. It is hoped that South Africa will again obtain a contract for the supply of meat to some of the European countries and thus enable markets for this class of animal to be found.

Stock-raising by Persons of Non-European Descent.—While many natives own large numbers of stock consisting of bovines and goats, there is as yet little improvement in the methods of stock-raising. In the native mind wealth is represented by cattle.

General.—The overstocking of cattle, affecting the grazing and the watering facilities of the territory, is becoming a serious matter. Unfortunately a great number of pools which were formerly considered to be permanent, have dried up. This is not due entirely to the rainfall being below the average but also to the extra drain on the water by the increased herds of cattle and, in the bush veld, to the enormous number of wildebeest.

A start has been made on the construction of dams for the conservation of water in those parts where water is scarce. In the foothills and bush country there are many ideal places for the construction of dams. This is a matter of the greatest importance to the territory.

Agriculture.

The principal agricultural occupations are cattle breeding and the growing of maize, kaffir corn, tobacco, and cotton.

In the winter the high veld portion of the territory is largely used by sheep graziers who bring in their flocks from the Transvaal where the climate is more severe.

Improved methods in agriculture are becoming more general amongst the European farmers.

Efforts are being made to help the natives to improve their methods in agriculture and, for this purpose, trained native demonstrators have been engaged. These are men who have received training

at native agricultural schools in the Union and have obtained diplomas in agriculture. A difficulty at present is to obtain men who know the Swazi language. It is hoped to get over this by sending some natives from Swaziland to be trained in the Union and also to train others locally.

Maize.—The principal crop grown by Europeans and natives in the highlands and midlands is maize. The European return of an average of 2·1 muids (bags of 200 lb.) per acre is very low but this may be partly due to the abnormally low rainfall experienced during the growing season. The return per acre for the natives is even lower. The price of maize dropped to the lowest level known for many years. This was due to an over-production in the Union and to Swaziland being declared an export country under the Maize Control Act.

Kaffir Corn.—This is the principal crop grown by the natives, especially in the bush veld. It is more resistant to drought than maize. The yield per acre was very low.

Cotton.—The return of this crop was 1,532,132 lb. of seed cotton, the lowest return for the past three years; this was due not only to a bad season but chiefly to the smaller acreage planted on account of the very low price of cotton in the world's markets.

Tobacco.—During the year the Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Company was established, but it was not until the 1st June that it was in a position to receive tobacco at its warehouse. From that date until the end of the year 560,379 lb. of tobacco were delivered or otherwise dealt with. The intake price of leaf tobacco amounting to 422,033 lb. was £10,776. The tobacco sold by the Company to the end of the year realized £5,711, while the value of the tobacco on hand on the 31st December was £7,952. In addition, roll tobacco amounting to 134,851 lb. was exported by growers and realized approximately £3,771. The crop was an average one. An encouraging feature was the extent to which natives have taken to producing tobacco. Their total production was 15,000 lb. and it was valued, on the average, to within a farthing per lb. of the tobacco grown by Europeans. The only kind of tobacco for which the Company did not get a prompt demand was the highest grade of snuff tobacco, which is principally consumed by the natives. It is also the highest priced tobacco. Native unemployment and a famine in Zululand were two factors given for a falling away in demand for this type of tobacco.

During the year the planting of tobacco for the 1932 crop was on a greater scale than for the 1931 crop but, owing to adverse weather conditions and destructive hail storms, it is estimated that the yield will be below the average.

Other Crops.—Other crops grown are beans of all kinds, peanuts, and other oil producing crops.

Fruit.—The export of citrus fruit has been carried out by a few farmers and excellent reports have been received about the quality of the fruit but depressed markets have been disappointing to the growers.

Dairying.—This branch of farming is increasing, 21,670 lb. butter fat, valued at approximately £843, were exported to the Union during the year.

Native Dairying.—Two dairies, to which natives supply the milk, were started in 1930, and have proved a success. They are under the supervision of a native agricultural demonstrator. It is hoped to establish other dairies on bus routes where a demonstrator is available to supervise them. It is proposed to give instructions in dairying to native scholars who wish to take it up. If the dairying branch of farming increases amongst the Europeans, trained natives should have no difficulty in obtaining employment with farmers at a higher wage than the ordinary labourer.

Vegetable gardening is also being taught at all schools in the territory.

The Inspector of Education has arranged that at five native schools all scholars who have passed Standard IV, and who desire it, can take a course in agriculture for a period of two years in Standards V and VI under a native demonstrator. At the end of that period a native who desires to do so will be given a further special course of two years, when he should be able to do the work of an agricultural demonstrator. This will assist the natives by giving them a knowledge of elementary agriculture which they can apply to their own fields when they leave school. It will also give the better trained native an opportunity of another field of employment as a demonstrator.

Cultivation by persons of non-European descent.

The only inhabitants falling within this category are the natives. In about half of the area the cultivation is by hand with hoes made specially for native use, and is carried out principally by married women. In the other half, ploughs drawn by oxen are used. Harrows and cultivators are seldom used. The food-stuffs grown by natives are only about one-fifth of their requirements, the remaining four-fifths being supplied by European farmers and by traders who import grain from the Union. In the areas most favourable to the cultivation of grain the natives often sell grain but are not infrequently found buying it back later on in the season at enhanced prices.

Number of persons of non-European descent cultivating for themselves, or in association with, or employed by, non-Europeans.

With the exception of approximately 3,000 natives who are employed by Europeans in agriculture, the majority cultivate for

themselves. Approximately 250 are in the employment of Euraficans. Usually these natives work as servants receiving wages in money together with food and quarters.

The progress which has been made, and the comparative influence of instruction and of employment with Europeans.

There are approximately 150 natives who are really progressive farmers and whose methods compare favourably with those of Europeans. These include the tobacco growers and a few grain farmers. Ploughs are replacing hand labour to an increasing extent every year and the methods of planting, cultivation, and use of fertilizers are showing steady improvement. Most of the progress is due to their employment by and the association with Europeans.

Labour.

Labour was plentiful for farming, mining, road-making, and domestic purposes. There was no recruiting for labour for estates or mines in the territory. The tin mines at Mbabane and the asbestos mine near Pigg's Peak employed about 500 natives. These mines are situated in a healthy part and there is no underground work. The other employers of native labour are the ranches, two cotton plantations, the European farmers, and the Administration. The labourers are housed in grass huts of the type described in Chapter V.

Farmers' Associations.

There are three of these Associations in the territory, the Swazi-land Farmers' Association, with headquarters at Bremersdorp; the Stegi Farmers' Association, and the Southern Farmers' Association, with headquarters at Hlatikulu.

These Associations have been in existence for many years and are the avenues through which all matters dealing with farming and stock-raising are communicated to the Government. Agricultural Shows have been held annually for a number of years at Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu. Exhibits at these shows for the past three years are as follows :—

			<i>Bremersdorp.</i>	<i>Hlatikulu.</i>
1929	...	...	580	729
1930	...	...	537	721
1931	...	...	578	927

At the Hlatikulu Show there is usually a large number of exhibits in the ladies' and children's sections.

At the Bremersdorp Show there is also a native section which includes native craft work. This section increases every year. The entries in this section are not included in the above figures.

Prizes to the value of £180 were given at the Bremersdorp Show and to the value of £108 at the Hlatikulu Show.

Crops.

The following is a summary of agricultural products raised by Europeans and natives during the year :—

By Europeans.

	<i>Acres sown.</i>	<i>Amount harvested.</i>	<i>Approximate return per acre.</i>
Maize	10,287	21,661 muids of 200 lb. or 4,332,200 lb.	2·1 muids.
Cotton	7,125	1,532,132 lb. seed cotton	215 lb.
Tobacco	475	560,279 lb.	1,180 lb.
Kaffir Corn	1,683	2,819 muids or 563,800 lb.	1·7 muids.
Beans	890	772 bags of 200 lb.	175 lb.
Peanuts	376	2,059 bags of 70 lb. each or 144,130 lb.	5·5 bags.
Sweet potatoes	36	162 bags of 120 lb.	4·5 bags.
Potatoes	24	389 bags of 150 lb.	16 bags.
Pumpkins	37	56,200 lb.	1,519 lb.

By Natives.

Maize	30,535	27,328 muids of 200 lb. or 5,465,600 lb.	1 muid.
Tobacco	15	15,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Kaffir Corn	42,690	42,535 muids of 200 lb. or 8,507,000 lb.	1 muid.
Beans	1,000	763 bags of 200 lb.	152 lb.
Peanuts	60	300 bags of 70 lb.	5 bags.
Sweet potatoes	425	1,425 bags of 120 lb.	1½ bags.
Potatoes	5	18 bags of 150 lb.	3·6 bags.
Pumpkins	720	150,000 lb.	208 lb.

PASTORAL PRODUCTS.

	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		£
Milk	2,628 gallons	243
Butter	13,081 lb.	859
Eggs	31,634 dozen	202
Bacon	755 lb.	56
Beef	1,500,000 lb.	25,000

These are consumed locally. No reliable estimate can be given at present of the pastoral products of the natives.

The following is a summary of the products, quantities in pounds and values, exported during the five years ended on the 31st December, 1931 :—

<i>Slaughter Cattle.</i>						
		1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
lb.	...	4,767,000	3,639,600	5,500,000	4,373,700	5,181,600
£	...	63,560	54,594	85,000	50,763	33,322
<i>Tobacco.</i>						
lb.	...	1,262,500	1,283,250	1,068,400	578,330	298,413
£	...	36,825	37,428	35,613	14,397	9,082
<i>Cotton Seed.</i>						
lb.	...	536,500	850,814	2,618,913	3,224,182	1,532,132
£	...	11,270	13,785	37,961	26,868	9,578
<i>Hides.</i>						
lb.	...	243,770	368,400	434,840	208,140	143,600
£	...	10,157	13,047	7,250	3,469	1,589
<i>Skins.</i>						
lb.	...	—	—	—	—	5,590
£	...	—	—	—	—	144
<i>Wattle Bark.</i>						
lb.	...	1,194,000	1,239,000	—	2,274,500	9,000
£	...	6,576	4,920	—	9,108	37
<i>Wool.</i>						
lb.	...	9,500	9,600	3,600	27,091	72,134
£	...	400	400	150	909	1,636
<i>Butter.</i>						
lb.	...	4,500	8,400	—	1,748	794
£	...	250	420	—	130	52
<i>Butter Fat.</i>						
lb.	...	—	1,800	4,400	33,870	21,670
£	...	—	90	220	675	843
<i>Bullion.</i>						
Value	...	£4,795	£1,475	£382	Nil.	Nil.
<i>Metallic Tin.</i>						
lb.	...	343,934	416,438	415,693	360,692	171,481
£	...	42,776	39,706	38,692	23,414	8,875

All the above products with the exception of cotton and metallic tin, were exported to the Union of South Africa. Cotton was exported to England and the tin to the Straits Settlements. Wool is shorn from sheep brought into the territory for winter grazing by farmers living in the Union. The only produce exported by the natives is tobacco and, at present, a small quantity of butter

fat. Seventy-five per cent. of the hides are sold by natives to European traders who export them.

The production, in the case of agriculture and live stock, is by individual agriculturists except in the case of cotton, of which approximately 36,600 lb. of seed cotton were produced by two cotton companies. The tin is won by companies from alluvial workings in the vicinity of Mbabane.

VII.—COMMERCE.

By an Agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated 29th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for customs purposes as part of the Union, and a fixed percentage of the total collections in the Union is paid to Swaziland annually.

Payments due to Swaziland are assessed on the proportion which the average of the collections for the three years ended 31st March, 1911, bears to the total customs collections of the Union in each year. No statistics of imports are kept.

The amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement during the last three financial years were as follows :—

1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
£15,738	£12,802	£13,320

Collections in Swaziland in respect of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union, are as follows :—

1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
£1,396	£1,385	£1,164

The sum of £1,315 was collected in respect of a temporary special duty on imported maize and maize products.

The imports consist principally of maize, flour, groceries, wearing apparel, kaffir truck, hardware, machinery, building materials, etc., most of which are imported from the Union of South Africa through wholesale firms established there. The principal exports are enumerated under section VI above.

Cotton is exported to the United Kingdom, tin through the Union to the Straits Settlements, and all other commodities to the Union of South Africa.

The volume of trade was reasonably good during the year under review. Average native crops were reaped. Farmers obtained a fair price for their maize. The prices of food-stuffs were not excessive.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Europeans employed on Government Motor Services.

There are no railways in the territory but the Road Motor Service of the Union Government and of the Portuguese East African Administration continue to operate in Swaziland over certain routes. The average rates of wages in these services were, drivers £22 per month and assistant drivers £14 per month. The average cost

of living for a single man was £10 per month, and for a married man with one young child £16 per month made up as follows :—

	£
Rent	42 per annum.
Groceries meat, milk, etc.	90 do.
Clothing, boots, etc. ...	46 do.
Poll Tax	2 do.
Wages of servants ...	12 do.

This does not include the cost of education. The average hours of work were 60 per week. In some cases quarters were provided at a rental of £3 10s. per month. No natives were employed in these services.

Europeans employed on Public Works.

Road overseers employed by the Administration receive wages varying from £16 to £21 per month, depending on their length of service and general efficiency. These men are not on the pensionable staff. Some own farms. The figures of cost of living shown above are applicable in their cases. The hours of work are approximately 54 per week.

Natives employed on Public Works.

The Administration employs one full time carpenter and one part-time mason. Their rate of wages was £7 per month. There were four motor drivers employed at £4 per month each. The average native labourer was paid £1 10s. per month. The motor drivers and labourers receive in addition quarters and food. The average hours of work were approximately 54 per week.

Europeans employed in other works.

Stock Inspectors employed by the Administration receive salaries at the rate of £20 per month rising by annual increments of £15 to £30 per month.

Europeans employed in building.

These were paid at the rate of 15s. to £1 per diem. The average hours of work were 48 per week.

Europeans employed on mines.

European mine managers were paid at the rate of £35 per month. Quarters were provided. European mine overseers were paid at the rate of £30 per month. Quarters were not provided. The cost of living in the case of married men was approximately £20 per month, and in the case of a single man approximately £12 per month. European miners and prospectors were paid at the rate of £25 per month, without quarters. The cost of living in the case of married men was approximately £14 per month and in the case of single men approximately £10 per month. The average hours of work were approximately 50 per week.

Natives employed on mines.

Natives in charge of labourers employed on the mines were paid at the rate of 1s. 8d. to 2s. *per diem*. Native labourers on mines were paid at the rate of 8d. to 1s. *per diem* depending on their age and efficiency. In all cases they received quarters and 6d. *per diem* for food.

Natives employed on other works.

The average rates of wages per annum of native non-commissioned officers and men of the Swaziland Police were:—Sergeants £72 to £84; Corporals £60 to £72; Constables £36 to £54 according to length of service. In addition, quarters are provided. The average hours of work were 60 per week.

The native cattle guards in charge of Government dipping tanks received average wages of £30 to £39 per annum according to length of service. The average hours of work were 60 per week.

Europeans employed in agriculture.

The rates of wages of Europeans employed in agriculture vary from £5 to £10 per month with a share in the crops, estimated to be of the value of £40 to £80 per annum. Others are provided with food and quarters. In other cases farm managers were paid at the rate of £20 to £25 per month and quarters. The average hours of work were 60 per week and the average cost of living for a single man was £10, and for a married man £14, per month.

Natives employed in agriculture.

The rates of wages of native labourers varied from 15s. to £2 per month, depending on their age and efficiency, the higher paid being plowmen, wagon drivers, and natives experienced in farming work. The average hours of labour were 60 per week.

Natives employed in domestic service.

Natives in domestic service were paid wages varying from 10s. per month to £3 10s. according to age and experience. Household servants, waiters, etc., received from 10s. to 30s., grooms 15s. to £1, cooks £2 to £3 10s. In addition food and quarters are supplied. The average hours of service were 60 per week.

The staple food-stuffs of the native labourers in Government and other employment are 2½ lb. of maize meal *per diem* or about 75 lb. per month, and 1½ lb. of meat per week or about 6 lb. per month. The average cost of meal throughout the year was 14s. per 183 lb. and of meat 4½d. per lb. The average cost of living was 8s. per month. The average cost of living of educated natives was approximately £2 per head per month.

In addition, secondary education is given at St. Mark's School, Mbabane, which is aided by an annual grant of £1,450 from the Government. This school is controlled by a Council on which the Administration is represented by two nominees. The school is examined every year by the Inspector of Education. The new buildings at this school, mentioned in the Report for 1930, have now been completed. These include an excellent dormitory for boys. A commercial class has been formed for such pupils as are destined to take the ordinary Matriculation Examination of the University of South Africa.

Afrikaans is taught by a qualified teacher and music is taught by a mistress possessed of the L.R.A.M. degree.

During the year, a school for European children was opened at Bremersdorp by the Dominican Order, and an attendance of approximately twenty was maintained throughout the year. The work done at this school is mostly of a primary nature, but a few of the older pupils are being prepared for the examinations conducted by the College of Preceptors, England. This school, which receives no direct aid from the Administration, has in being courses for adults and others desirous of studying shorthand, typing, book-keeping, etc., and there are a few adults who are taking special work in connexion with music.

Towards the end of the year a new school building for European children was completed at Bremersdorp. It comprises two up-to-date class rooms, specially designed for educational purposes. It stands amidst ample space for playgrounds, gardens, etc.

At the Driefontein school in the Mankaiiana District an abandoned farm house near the school, has, with aid from the Administration, been rented; a suitable woman has been placed in charge, and the people have provided furniture. Eighteen children are being boarded here. They came from outlying farms more than three miles distant from the school. Small grants of £1 per month per child are given by the Administration, and the money is paid to the hostel. This hostel has been visited on several occasions, and the benefit to children of proper and regular food and hours is reflected in their school work.

The average attendance at the ten Government schools for European children during the last three years was as follows:—

1929	...	...	502
1930	...	...	435
1931	...	...	400

The average attendance at St. Mark's School for 1931 was 96, while the average attendance during the same period at the Dominican School, Bremersdorp, was 20. The average attendance of European scholars at all schools was therefore 516.

Public examinations are limited to the Matriculation and Junior Certificate Examinations held annually by the University of South Africa. The School Leaving Certificate (Standard VI) and the

High School Entrance Examination (Standard V) are also held annually by the Department of Education of the Transvaal ; and the syllabus of this Department is used in the Swaziland schools. The results obtained at the examinations held towards the end of last year were three passes in the Matriculation out of four candidates from St. Mark's School, and four passes in the Junior Certificate out of four candidates also from St. Mark's School.

Seventeen entered from Government schools and sixteen passed the School Leaving Certificate, while thirty-four entered from Government schools for the High School Entrance Examination and twenty-five passed. The staffing of the Government schools shows some improvement in regard to the professional qualifications required for teachers. Five of the teachers possess proper professional qualifications. The school buildings have been repaired and improved. The schools have all been visited by a medical officer.

During the year a considerable amount of progress has been made in connexion with the introduction of the boy scout and girl guide movements throughout the territory, and at several schools there are troops of both kinds. A very good library has been built up at the Goedegun School. The Inspector of Education states that the general standard of work in the European schools has distinctly advanced.

Eurafrican Education.

There are in existence two institutions for Eurafrian children which are aided by the Administration. The average attendance at these two institutions for the last three years was as follows :—

1929	...	...	111
1930	...	...	125
1931	...	...	50

They receive £700 as grants-in-aid. At the Florence Mission, the pupils are taught by a qualified European lady teacher and a qualified Eurafrian woman. In addition, the missionary in charge teaches the boys woodwork and building. Besides these there are Eurafrian children scattered throughout the territory who are taught in the native schools.

Native Education.

At present there are three Government schools for natives and 86 native Mission schools in receipt of Government aid and under Government supervision.

There is a Supervisor of Native Schools, who does valuable work in his visits of supervision made at all schools throughout the country. He demonstrates improved methods of teaching, and promotes general interest amongst Europeans and natives in the welfare and development of the Swazi children.

A Board of Advice on Native Education, which is composed of representatives of the European Advisory Council, missionaries, and certain Government officials met twice during the year.

Many of the Mission Societies receive help from overseas and the curtailment of such help has had its effects on educational activities.

Early in the year the "World Service Exhibition" was held in Johannesburg at St. Mary's Hall. The Paramount Chief, the Mission schools, and the Government native schools co-operated under the direction of the Inspector of Schools in staging an exhibit from Swaziland that attracted much attention. Excellent specimens of grass work, clay work, woodwork, and brasswork were exhibited. Practically all the articles marked for sale were sold and orders were taken for similar articles to be made. The total cost of staging the exhibit did not exceed £30. This was due to the voluntary aid of several ladies closely associated with Swaziland, and of the Paramount Chief who was in daily attendance at the Exhibition.

During the year a new school building was erected near Lobamba, the home of the Ndhlovukazi Lomawa, the mother of the Paramount Chief. It is of the open air type, commodious and airy, and very suitable for school purposes.

General Welfare Work.

Two subsidiary training courses for native teachers were held, one in northern and one in southern Swaziland. Lectures were given in community work, the teaching of the ordinary school subjects, the aims and objects of native education, agricultural work, craft work, hygiene, and other kindred subjects. They proved to be of great value to the teachers and have resulted in improved methods of teaching at the schools.

The subsidized native schools are of three types which are known as classes I, II, and III. The class I schools work up to and include Standard II, and are mostly in the charge of unqualified teachers.

Class II schools work up to and include Standard IV and the head-teachers must be qualified. Class III schools receive only pupils who have passed Standard IV and prepare such pupils for the School Leaving Certificate (Standard VI) of the Natal Province, and possession of that certificate admits them to Colleges and Institutions in South Africa where training in teaching can be obtained.

The following statement shows the number of pupils in average attendance on the closing day of term, December, 1931. It also includes the children attending the three Government native schools at Lobamba, Zombode, and Matapa :—

<i>Class of School.</i>	<i>Average Attendance.</i>	<i>Number of Schools.</i>
Class I 	1,330	60
Class II 	872	23
Class III and Matapa	430	6
	<hr/> 2,632	<hr/> 89

The introduction of a definite salary scale has accomplished much good so far as the employment of better qualified teachers is concerned. The results are to be seen in greatly improved school work. There is now no native teacher at work in controlled schools with a lower qualification than a pass out of Standard IV. There are also teaching at the native schools eight full-time European teachers and two who give part-time service.

There are about 130 other schools, not in receipt of grants. The Education Department gives them all possible help by supervising their work and providing them with a code, registers, etc. There is an enrolment of approximately 3,236 children at these schools. Evening classes are held at some of the Mission schools.

At a number of centres where there may be one or two controlled schools, with possibly two or three small but unaided schools in the immediate vicinity, the Missions are discussing the possibilities of amalgamating their schools to form one strong central school. The Board of Advice is giving the matter its attention and tentative regulations to govern such amalgamation schools have been drafted.

At the Swazi National School at Matapa good progress has been made in the building up of this Government institution. There have been approximately 40 pupils in attendance throughout the year from various parts of Swaziland. The work includes :—

- (1) Academic courses, with courses in elementary woodwork and agriculture for pupils who intend later on to take up professional training as teachers ;
- (2) Part training in agricultural methods.

It is intended that all work at this centre shall ultimately be past Standard VI.

In connexion with the native schools there are held each year two official examinations, covering, amongst other subjects, art and craftwork, needlework, agricultural work, the vernacular, and oral English.

The second examination is held at the end of Standard VI year and is the same examination as that held by the Department of Education, Natal.

The following schedule sets out the number of entrants at each examination held in December, 1931, and the number of passes obtained :—

	<i>Entries.</i>	<i>Passes.</i>
Standard IV Examination ...	88	79
Standard VI Examination (School Leaving Certificate)	35	27

Welfare Institutions.

The Principal at St. Mark's, the Reverend C. C. Tugman, B.A., has worked indefatigably for a number of years to encourage the presentation of good drama in Mbabane, and Swaziland generally,

and an open air theatre, situated at Mbabane amidst ideal surroundings, has just been completed. At this theatre it is intended to act some of Shakespeare's plays, and under certain conditions it will be possible for other bands of players to use the facilities afforded.

At Mbabane and Bremersdorp there are amateur dramatic societies which are in a flourishing state, and from time to time entertainments are given which receive strong support from the public.

Generally, at the end of the school year, breaking up entertainments are held at the European schools at which simple and suitable plays are staged, or at which the children give of their best in connexion with singing, recitation, and dancing. Somewhat similar entertainments are given at a number of native schools.

Welfare work is engaging the serious attention of the Administration, and towards the end of the year, Mr. Rheinallt Jones, M.A., together with Mrs. Jones, visited the territory, at the invitation of the Resident Commissioner, and conferred with him as regards action that might be taken towards the improvement of welfare work amongst the native people.

As a result of this meeting, a sports club for natives has been started at Mbabane. The question of the introduction of the pathfinder and wayfarer movements is also being considered.

Shortly after his arrival in Swaziland, the Resident Commissioner took action which has led to the erection of an excellent hall for the use of the natives living in and about Mbabane. This hall has been in full use throughout the year, and is used by the natives for concerts, debates, and general entertainments. Close to the hall there is a tennis court, on which tennis is played almost daily.

In southern Swaziland, the boy scout and girl guide movement has just been started, and there are good troops established at Goedgegun, and at Schurwekop. It is to be hoped that this work will receive every encouragement, as its good effect on the children is already noticeable.

Early in the year, thanks to the action of the Headmaster of the Bremersdorp Government European School and to the generosity of the people of Bremersdorp, it was possible to send a large party of children to Lourenco Marques where they spent several days at the sea.

Singing is being encouraged amongst the natives and gradually choirs are being established in each district of Swaziland. It is hoped shortly to secure a cup which will be competed for annually. Football clubs are being formed in connexion with the leading schools, and also in the various districts. A challenge cup has been presented, and when once the organization of the native football clubs is on a satisfactory basis, this cup will be competed for annually.

Throughout Swaziland, the Europeans have well organized football and cricket clubs, and there are the usual tennis, gymkhana, and golf clubs, etc.

There is no provision made by means of insurance in the event of accident, sickness, and old age, but the question is being discussed as to whether it may not be possible to provide by some form of insurance for the old age of teachers who are not on the permanent staff, but who have given long service in aided and Government schools.

There are no orphanages in the territory.

Native welfare work is only in its early stage in Swaziland, but the future is bright with promise. Everywhere there are signs of development, and there are many schemes afoot, such as the institution of libraries, thrift clubs, a Native Welfare Association, etc.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

All transport, both into and out of the territory, is by road, and connects on the south, south-east, west, north, and north-east with railheads in the Union of South Africa at Gollé, Piet Retief, Breyten, Hectorspruit, and Komatipoort respectively. The main road from Johannesburg to Lourenço Marques runs through Swaziland from west to east.

There are approximately 400 miles of main roads and the same number of secondary roads in the territory.

No new roads have been proclaimed during the period under review but an old road connecting the Mankaiana and Hlatikulu districts via Mshengu's Drift on the Mkondo river has been re-opened and is passable for motor traffic during the dry season.

The Mushroom Lands Settlements, Limited, constructed privately a road from Mbabane to their Hlambanyati estate involving some 16 miles of heavy work and the construction of a 5-span low level reinforced concrete bridge across the Usutshwana River.

Railways.

There are no railways or tramways in Swaziland.

Motor Transport.

The Motor Transport Services of the South African Railways Administration and the Portuguese East African Administration, carrying both goods and passengers, continue to operate over the same routes as formerly between Swaziland and the railheads in the neighbouring territories.

The cost of maintaining these services is borne entirely by the Administrations operating them and the revenues derived therefrom are retained by the respective Administrations.

The following tables show the traffic handled since the commencement of the services :—

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Area with depot at Bremersdorp.

Year.	Passengers carried.		Goods handled, in tons.
	European.	Natives.	
1928	4,818	13,759	5,388
1929	4,499	19,736	6,875
1930	3,694	23,682	8,519
1931	3,071	34,241	7,252

Area with depot at Hlatikulu.

Year.	Passengers carried.		Goods handled, in tons.
	European.	Native.	
1928	839	2,958	391
1929	1,361	7,664	1,055
1930	1,815	11,664	1,559
1931	1,938	9,093	1,307

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Area with depot at Goba.

Year.	Passengers carried.		Goods handled, in tons.
	European.	Native.	
1930 (11 months) ...	185	243	1,264
1931	214	1,556	1,769

The charges made by both motor transport services are the same, namely :—

Passenger fares 3d. per mile for Europeans and 1½d. per mile for natives.

Charges for goods carried are on a sliding scale and according to classification, namely, at from 3d. for 5 miles to 2s. 6d. for 100 miles per 100 lb.

Motor Vehicles.

The following motor vehicles were registered in the territory during the year :—

	British makes.	Other makes.	Total.
Private cars	29	263	292
Commercial vehicles ...	21	33	54
Motor cycles	48	18	66
			<hr/> 412 <hr/>

Postal.

The Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services continue, as formerly, to be controlled by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa. The expenditure is met from, and revenue paid into, Swaziland funds.

There are 298 miles of trunk lines on the metallic circuit system connecting all district offices, except Mankaiana, with the Administration headquarters at Mbabane. Communications with the Pigg's Peak office is through Barberton in the Transvaal. Telegraphic communication is available between both Bremersdorp and Mbabane with Johannesburg, Pretoria, and other centres.

In south Swaziland a telephonic service only is provided and the Hlatikulu district is connected up with Piet Retief in the Transvaal as well as with headquarters at Mbabane. A telephone trunk line connects Gollel, which is the Swaziland border terminus of the Natal North Coast Railway Line, with Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu, passing agencies at Nsoko, Maloma, and Kubuta. A branch line from Hlatikulu runs to the Mooihoek Valley.

A telephone line from Piet Retief to the Mankaiana district is terminated at an agency some two and a-half miles inside the Swaziland border.

The question of continuing the latter line to the Mankaiana district offices, and of erecting lines between Mankaiana and Mbabane, also between Stegi and Goba on the Portuguese border, is still under consideration.

The cost of running the postal service with the revenue derived therefrom for the past decade are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>
	£	£
1922-23 ...	3,377	2,415
1923-24 ...	3,237	2,729
1924-25 ...	3,384	3,176
1925-26 ...	3,215	3,359
1926-27 ...	3,354	3,213
1927-28 ...	3,151	3,379
1928-29 ...	3,332	3,842
1929-30 ...	3,815	4,144
1930-31 ...	3,986	4,193
1931-32 ...	4,891	4,932

Increase of expenditure is due mainly to the employment of a full-time electrician who is responsible for the maintenance of all telegraph and telephone lines and local exchanges.

Following the policy adopted by the Union of South Africa an increase in the postage rates from 1½d. to 2d. per ounce came into force on 1st May, 1931. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the revenue derived from the postal service continues to exceed the cost of maintenance.

There are no wireless stations in the territory but licences have been issued to twenty-six holders of wireless receiving sets.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two Banks in the territory, namely, Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) with three branches and one agency, and the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, with one branch and one agency.

Under the Swaziland (Coinage) Order, 1911, as amended by the Swaziland (Coinage) Order of 1920, all British coins which are, for the time being, legal tender in the United Kingdom, and all coins of the late South African Republic which are of equivalent value to the British coins, are current in the territory and are legal tender ; in the case of gold coins, for payment of any amount ; in the case of silver coins, for the payment of an amount not exceeding forty shillings ; and in the case of bronze coins, for payment of an amount not exceeding one shilling.

The Coinage Orders of 1911 and 1920 were amended by the Swaziland (Coinage) Order, 1931, which gives the High Commissioner the power by Proclamation to make provision for the regulation of currency in the Protectorate and for all matters connected therewith, including the power of amending or repealing wholly or in part the provisions of the Orders of 1911 and 1920.

The amount at fixed deposit at Barclays Bank on 31st March, 1932, was £13,730, and the amount on current account amounted to £20,892. At the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, the amounts were £4,021 and £2,503 respectively. The deposits in the savings departments of these two banks were £6,636 and £511 respectively. The only notes in circulation are those of the South African Reserve Bank, and though these are not legal tender in the territory, nevertheless, they are dealt with as such for all purposes.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the territory. Loans to settlers are granted under the provision of the Swaziland Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929, dealt with in Chapter XV. The Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Company, Limited, in the Hlatikulu district, is a limited liability company registered under the Co-operative Societies (Swaziland) Proclamation, 1931. It was financed by the Administration to the extent of £2,000 as a capital loan expended upon buildings and plant, and to an amount not exceeding £10,000 as a seasonal loan for the payment of working expenses and for making advances to growers upon the delivery of their tobacco. In these respects the practice in the case of similar societies in the Union of South Africa was followed.

The above-mentioned loans were granted on conditions laid down in the Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929, as amended by Proclamation No. 7 of 1931.

Weights and Measures.

With the following exceptions, Imperial weights and measures are in use :—

Dry measure	...	1 ton = 2,000 lb.
Linear measure	...	1 rood = 12 Cape feet. 1 Cape foot = 1·033 English feet.
Liquid measure	...	1 league = 2 hogsheads.
Surface or Land		1 morgen = 600 square roods.
measure.		1 square rood = 144 square feet. 1,000 Cape feet = 1,033 English feet. 1,000 morgen = 2,116½ English acres. 1,000 yards = 914 metres. 1,000 metres = 1,093·62 yards. 1,000 Cape feet = 314·855 metres. 1 morgen = 0·8565 hectares.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.**Roads.**

As a result of the rainfall this year being much below the average, very few washaways occurred on the roads and it was, therefore, possible to undertake a considerable amount of gravelling with a view to making the main roads serviceable during all weathers.

The twenty mile section leading to Gollel, on which work has been regular during the winter months for the last four years, has been completed.

Buildings.

The necessity for the strictest economy limited the construction programme to a few minor buildings including a European school at Bremersdorp, additional gaol cells at Stegi, and additional accommodation at Schurwekop School.

The buildings provided for in 1930 out of the Colonial Development Fund, which were unfinished at the end of March, 1931, were completed. These were the new hospital at Mbabane, the erection of which cost £5,044, and three venereal disease clinics at Mbabane, Bremersdorp, and Goedgegun, respectively, costing £1,213.

Water-Supplies.

A sum of £150 was provided from the Colonial Development Fund for the erection of a storage dam in the hills at Gollel, and later £3,000 was provided from the same Fund for the conservation of water in native areas by the construction of additional dams. A commencement has been made with six of these, five of which have earthwork embankments and one has a reinforced concrete wall. The storage provided by these six dams will amount to 8,000,000 gallons.

Staff.

The strength of the Department remains as last year and consists of the Government Engineer with a clerk at Mbabane, and an Inspector of Roads and Works stationed at Hlatikulu.

A European overseer with six natives is in charge of the large pont on the Usutu River. Two natives operate the small pont on the Komati River on the road between Mbabane and Pigg's Peak, and there is a native boatman in charge of a boat on the Komati at Balegane.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Administration of Justice.

The Roman Dutch Common Law, "save in so far as the same has been heretofore or may from time to time be modified by statute," was declared to be in force in Swaziland under Section 2(1) of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. All statute laws of the Transvaal in force at the date of this Proclamation were declared to be in force. Subsequent laws have been promulgated by the High Commissioner under the authority of Orders in Council of 1903, 1906, and 1909.

SPECIAL COURT OF SWAZILAND.

In 1912 a Special Court, which has the powers and jurisdiction of a superior Court, was established, with an Advocate of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court as President. The other members consist of the Resident Commissioner, the Deputy Resident Commissioner, and the Assistant Commissioners of the various districts. The Court holds sessions twice a year. All cases are dealt with by three members sitting without a jury. This Court has jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases. When it is not in session, the Resident Commissioner or the Deputy Resident Commissioner in his capacity as a member of the Court has power to exercise the civil jurisdiction of the Special Court in all motions and applications and in all actions for provisional sentence. This Court has the power of reviewing the proceedings of and hearing appeals from any inferior Court of Justice in Swaziland. Reviews of criminal cases when the Court is not in session are dealt with by the President of the Court, or if so deputed by him, by the Resident Commissioner, or the Deputy Resident Commissioner. Death sentences can be carried out only upon the special warrant of the High Commissioner. There is a right of appeal to the Privy Council against any final judgment of the Special Court when the matter in dispute is of the value of £500 or upwards. The Crown Prosecutor, who prosecutes for crimes and offences before the Special Court, was appointed under the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907.

COURTS OF ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

Courts of Assistant Commissioners were established under Section 9 of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. These Courts have jurisdiction in all civil proceedings in which neither party is a European, and in criminal proceedings in which the accused is not a European; but Assistant Commissioners do not have jurisdiction to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to rape, or sedition. In the cases last mentioned and in other serious cases, the Assistant Commissioners hold preparatory examinations, and if a *prima facie* case is made out the accused persons are committed for trial before the Special Court.

In civil and criminal cases where the accused is a European, Assistant Commissioners have the jurisdiction conferred on Courts of Resident Magistrates in the Transvaal, or the jurisdiction established by any special Proclamation.

All sentences of imprisonment exceeding three months, or a fine of £25, or whipping are subject to review by the Special Court. There are four Assistant Commissioners in charge of districts and three Deputy Assistant Commissioners, two in charge of sub-districts and one at district Headquarters in the Hlatikulu district. Deputy Assistant Commissioners have the same jurisdiction as Assistant Commissioners.

NATIVE COURTS.

The Paramount Chief and other native Chiefs continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in all civil disputes in which natives only are concerned. An appeal lies to the Resident Commissioner, whose decision is final.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Civil cases tried in the Special Court of Swaziland during the last four years were as follows :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
At sessions of Special Court ...	3	2	2	5
Before Judge in Chambers ...	16	19	28	45

Police and Prisons.

The Swaziland Police Force was established under the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. The personnel consists of :—

European : 1 Inspector, 23 Non-Commissioned Officers and men.
Native : 141 Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

The principal prisons are at Mbabane, Hlatikulu, and Bremersdorp. There are also prisons at Stegi, Mankaiana, and Pigg's Peak.

The Bremersdorp prison is a substantial masonry building erected before 1899. The other prisons are masonry buildings with corrugated iron roofs and concrete floors.

The Stegi prison is being rebuilt but has not yet been completed. There are still two wood and iron cells which will be replaced by more suitable ones as soon as possible.

At the Mbabane prison, which is typical of the other prisons, the prisoners sleep on grass mats and are provided with sufficient blankets. The prison is examined once a week by a medical officer. Taking the average number of prisoners in gaol throughout the year there were, for each prisoner during the hours of sleep, 162 cubic feet of space.

There are five large cells for natives and two smaller ones for European prisoners, and two cells for solitary confinement. Two more cells are being erected. There are four lavatories, one work shop, three kitchens, and three bathrooms. This prison is enclosed in a masonry wall.

Female prisoners are isolated from the others and are housed in a separate building with a separate yard. There is a kitchen, bathroom, lavatory, two cells for the prisoners, and one room for a wardress. Electric lights have been installed in the cells. Convicted male prisoners are employed upon general public works, building, and road making.

Ministers of the various Mission Societies hold periodical services in the prisons.

Juvenile Offenders.

Provision is made for the detention of juvenile offenders in separate cells and they are isolated from adult prisoners. During the year three juvenile offenders were convicted in the Special Court of Swaziland, and fifty-four in Courts of Assistant Commissioners, for the following offences :—

Culpable Homicide	...	...	...	1
Rape	...	...	...	2
Housebreaking with intent to steal				
and theft	...	...	...	9
Malicious injury to property			...	3
Stock theft	...	...	...	12
Theft	...	...	...	17
Assault	...	...	...	10
Other Offences	...	...	...	3
				—
				57
				—

HEALTH OF PRISONERS.

The Principal Medical Officer reports that the health of prisoners was, as usual, excellent, and undoubtedly better than that of similar people living outside prison.

PAYMENT OF FINES BY INSTALMENTS.

Provision is made in the Criminal Procedure Code, 1903, of the Transvaal, as in force in Swaziland, and in Proclamation No. 41 of 1911 for the payment of fines by instalments.

MODES OF DEALING WITH CONVICTED PERSONS.

Any person who has been convicted on two or more separate occasions of certain serious crimes such as rape, robbery, house-breaking, etc., shall if he is thereafter convicted before the Special Court of Swaziland of any of those offences, be liable to be declared by the Court an habitual criminal, such declaration being subject to confirmation by the High Commissioner.

An habitual criminal is detained with hard labour during the High Commissioner's pleasure and is not released until the High Commissioner considers that there is a reasonable probability that the prisoner will in future abstain from crime, or that he is no longer capable of engaging in crime, or that for any other reason it is desirable to release him.

PROBATION SYSTEM.

The High Commissioner may release on probation, for any period, an habitual criminal, and impose conditions as to supervision or otherwise. If a person so released on probation fails to observe any condition of his release he may be arrested and re-committed to prison. If a person so released on probation complete the period thereof without breaking any condition of his release he shall no longer be deemed an habitual criminal. The Resident Commissioner is required to furnish to the High Commissioner at least once a year, a written report containing detailed particulars relative to the history, conduct, and industry of every convict detained in Swaziland who has completed two years of his sentence. Upon receipt of the report the High Commissioner may, if the same be favourable in regard to any such convict, release him on probation or remit the remainder of his sentence.

SUSPENDED SENTENCES.

Any Court in Swaziland before which a person may be convicted and sentenced for the first time for an offence against property or against the person (other than murder, or rape, or assault with intent to commit those offences, or indecent assault) may suspend the operation of the sentence for such reasonable time as will allow such person to compensate the person to whom damage or injury has been caused by the offence.

The Court shall proceed forthwith to determine the amount of compensation, and, if the condition upon which the sentence was

suspended be fulfilled, the offender shall be deemed to have received a free pardon for the offence. If the condition be not fulfilled the offender may be arrested and committed to prison and undergo the sentence. Whenever a person is convicted of an offence, not punishable with death, the Court before which he is convicted may order the operation of the sentence to be suspended on conditions to be mentioned in the order. A failure to observe any condition of his release renders him liable to be committed to prison to undergo the sentence passed upon him. During the year, suspended sentences were imposed on 165 persons; of these 21 failed to comply with the conditions mentioned in the order and were committed to prison. The above provisions are contained in Proclamation No. 41 of 1911.

REMISSION OF SENTENCES.

Under the Gaol Regulations in force in Swaziland, any first offender, of good conduct, with a sentence of not less than eighteen months is permitted to petition for a mitigation of one-fifth of his sentence.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Persons proceeded against on charge of crime.

During the year, 3,561 persons were proceeded against in Courts of Assistant Commissioners for the following crimes :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	48
Other offences against the person	...	...	...	...	540
Offences against property	...	...	...	...	381
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	2,592

Of these 3,438 were males and 123 females.

Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for crimes and offences.

In the Assistant Commissioners' Courts 3,184 persons were convicted summarily, and were sentenced as follows :—

Imprisonment	...	...	...	...	1,426
Whipping	...	...	...	...	47
Fine	...	...	...	...	1,449
Bound over or cautioned and discharged	...	...	...	...	262

Persons for trial in the Superior Court.

Seventy persons were committed for trial in the Special Court of Swaziland for the following crimes :—

Murder	...	...	...	...	13
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	25
Attempted murder	...	...	...	...	1
Rape	...	...	...	...	9
Unnatural crime	...	...	...	...	1
Other offences against the person	...	...	...	...	11
Offences against property	...	...	...	...	7
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	3

Of these twenty-one were remitted for trial in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners. The Crown Prosecutor declined to prosecute seventeen persons. Of the remainder two were acquitted and thirty convicted; of the latter, three were sentenced to death but their sentences were commuted to terms of imprisonment, twenty-two were imprisoned, and five were fined.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences for the last four years :—

<i>The number of summary convictions in Courts of Assistant Commissioners.</i>				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Culpable homicide	6	5	9	14
Offences against the person	371	349	323	468
Malicious injury to property	10	17	31	21
Other offences against property	274	258	258	309
Other crimes	308	263	461	415
Offences against master and servant laws	185	174	111	86
Offences against revenue laws, etc. ...	2,167	1,613	1,780	1,582
Miscellaneous minor offences	217	278	226	289
Totals	3,538	2,957	3,199	3,184

<i>Number of convictions in Superior Courts (Special Court of Swaziland).</i>				
Murder	—	7	—	3
Culpable homicide	8	6	4	8
Attempted murder	1	3	—	1
Rape	1	2	1	6
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person ...	1	3	3	6
Offences against property	4	1	2	3
Other crimes	—	2	1	3
Totals	15	24	11	30

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The principal legislation consisted of the following Proclamations :

(1) No. 7 of 1931.—The Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Further Amendment.—This law authorizes advances for the purpose of the establishment of agricultural and rural industries including tobacco, dairy, and the exportation of fruit, and for the financing of Co-operative Societies or Companies.

(2) No. 8 of 1931, dealing with the formation of Co-operative Societies and Companies.—This law was issued to enable the formation of a Co-operative Tobacco Company.

(3) No. 12 of 1931, providing for the control or regulation of the importation of wheaten flour and wheaten meal.

(4) No. 15 of 1931, amending the Co-operative Societies Proclamation (No. 8 of 1931) by making co-operation compulsory in the case of the marketing of tobacco.

(5) No. 24 of 1931, Dairies and Dairy Produce.—This makes provision for the control of the dairy industry.

(6) No. 38 of 1931, consolidating and amending the laws relating to stamp duties and fees.

(7) No. 40 of 1931, consolidating and amending the laws relating to public roads and outspans.

(8) No. 43 of 1931, providing for the collection of statistics relating to agricultural, horticultural, dairying, industrial, commercial, and other business undertakings.

(9) No. 53 of 1931, consolidating and amending the law relating to revenue licences.

The following High Commissioner's Notices were issued :—

- (a) No. 39 of 1931.—Model Regulations for Co-operative Tobacco Companies.
- (b) No. 56 of 1931.—Alteration of rates of postage and other charges.
- (c) No. 68 of 1931.—Regulations under the Flour and Meal Importation Restriction Proclamation (No. 12 of 1931).
- (d) No. 97 of 1931.—Regulations under the Dairies and Dairy Produce Proclamation (No. 24 of 1931), for the general control of the dairy industry. Under these regulations a levy of 1d. per lb. is imposed on creamery butter and all butter substitutes manufactured in or imported into the territory from territories other than those under the Union Dairy Control Act.
- (e) No. 122 of 1931.—Imposing a levy of 1d. per lb. on all cheese manufactured in or imported into Swaziland from territories other than those under the Union Dairy Control Act. The Administration is represented on the Union Dairy Control Board which controls the export of butter, etc.
- (f) No. 107 of 1931.—Modifying the Customs Agreement between the Union of South Africa and Swaziland in regard to maize and maize products.
- (g) No. 108 of 1931, Regulations regarding the importations of maize and No. 109 of 1931, and maize products, and fixing a duty on maize the product No. 133 of 1931. of the Union of South Africa.
- (h) No. 121 of 1931.—Regulations under the Swaziland Roads and Outspans Proclamation (No. 40 of 1931).
- (j) No. 131 of 1931.—Regulations under the Statistics Proclamation (No. 43 of 1931).

There is no legislation in force dealing with factories, compensation for accidents, or legislative provisions for sickness, servants, or for old age, except in the case of sickness of domestic or agricultural servants.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the financial year ended on 31st March, 1932, amounted to £84,907 which is £4,706 less than the revenue for the preceding year, and £9,193 less than the estimate.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £113,069 which is £3,470 less than the expenditure for the preceding year, and £1,133 more than the estimate.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>				
		1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
		£	£	£	£	£
Ordinary ...	...	85,116	91,767	102,923	86,700	82,730
Extraordinary ...	...	6,217	4,592	8,168	2,913	2,177

		<i>Expenditure.</i>				
		1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
		£	£	£	£	£
Ordinary ...	...	88,631	104,088	109,647	114,280	113,069
Extraordinary ...	...	15,022	27,943	9,576	2,259	—

The reduction in the revenue compared with the previous year is due mainly to the falling off in the proceeds of native tax, dog tax, and income-tax.

Grants in aid of ordinary and capital expenditure amounting to £22,000 were received during the year from the Imperial Government.

Income-tax.

The receipts from normal income-tax and super-tax amounted to £1,213.

The following shows the classification of the sources of the incomes subject to the tax :—

Mining ...	...	...	15 per cent.
Trading and farming	...	...	40 do.
Civil Servants	...	...	31 do.
Professions	...	...	14 do.

Colonial Development Fund.

Expenditure amounting to £5,686 was incurred during the year under this head. This sum was expended upon the remainder of the works authorized in 1930-1, the construction of dams for the conservation of water, and the cost of the Economic and Financial Commission. Loans and grants amounting to £4,816 were received.

Loans to Settlers.

Under the Swaziland Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929, thirty-one applications for loans amounting to £12,480 were received during the year. The sum of £7,895 was issued to eighteen borrowers. The loans varied in amounts from £50 to £1,000 and were for the purpose of fencing, boring for water, erection of cattle dips, purchase of land, and release of mortgages.

Swazi National Fund.

Expenditure amounting to £3,389 was incurred out of the Swazi National Fund which was instituted in 1911 for the purpose of carrying out projects for the direct benefit of natives. This sum includes £2,425 which was spent out of the fund on native education.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt amounted to £55,000, consisting of :—(1) Swaziland Consolidated Loan amounting to £35,000 bearing interest at 3½ per cent. per annum, and repayable by a sinking fund in nineteen years from 1st April, 1924. The amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Fund on 31st March, 1931, was £12,630. (2) The Swazi Nation Trust Fund £20,000 bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

Assets.

On 31st March, 1931, liabilities exceeded assets by £75,587 inclusive of the Swazi Nation Trust Fund mentioned above, an increase of £6,917 during the year. There are no assets specially ear-marked, except the sinking fund referred to in the preceding paragraph.

TAXATION.

The main heads of taxation and the amounts collected in 1931-2 are as follows :—

	£
Native tax	36,937
Customs and Excise	15,799
Licences	5,900
Income-tax	1,213
Dog tax	3,023
European poll tax	1,798

Native Tax.—A tax of 35s. per annum is paid by each adult male native who is unmarried or who has one wife. Natives with more than one wife pay 30s. in respect of each wife with a maximum of £4 10s. The Assistant Commissioners of each district collect most of this tax at various tax camps selected for the convenience of the natives.

Customs and Excise.—No Customs duties are collected except on importations of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union of South Africa, and on maize and maize products. Under an Agreement made in 1910 a fixed percentage of the total Customs and Excise duties collected in the Union is paid to Swaziland and the sum of £13,320 was received in 1931-2. The balance of the sum of £15,799 shown above was collected in respect of importations of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union, and of maize and maize products.

Licences.—The revenue under this head is composed mainly of sums paid for trading, motor, labour, recruiting, hotel, and banking licences.

The following are the annual charges made for these licences :—

General dealers	...	£10.
Agents for foreign firms	...	£10.
(Commercial Travellers, etc.).		
Motor cars	... ..	£2, plus 1s. for each unit of horse-power and 2s. for each 100 pounds weight.
Labour Recruiting Agents	...	£25.
Liquor	... ..	£12 10s. 0d. to £50.
Banking	... ..	£5 to £50.

Licences are also issued in respect of the hunting of game, the possession of fire-arms, and prospecting.

Income-tax is charged at the rate of 1s. rising to a maximum of 2s. in the £ on all incomes. An abatement is allowed of £400 in the case of married persons, and £300 in the case of single persons. Abatements are also allowed in respect of children, insurance premiums, and dependants. There is also a super-tax of 1s. rising to a maximum of 5s. in the £ on incomes over £2,500.

Dog Tax.—A tax of 5s. is payable in respect of each dog.

Poll Tax.—A tax of £2 per annum is paid by every European male who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years. This tax is also paid by those natives who have been exempted from the law relating to passes and the payment of native tax under the provisions of the Coloured Persons' Exemption (Relief) Proclamation, 1901, of the Transvaal as in force in Swaziland.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AND EXCISE DUTY.

By an Agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated 30th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for Customs purposes as part of the Union.

Payments due to Swaziland are assessed on the proportion which the average of the collections for the three years ended 31st March, 1911, bears to the total Customs collections of the Union in each year. No statistics of imports are therefore kept. The Customs tariff and Excise duties are the same as those in force in the Union.

STAMP DUTIES.

The following is a summary of the stamp duties in force under Proclamation No. 38 of 1931 :—

1. Affidavit or Solemn or Attested Declaration	2s. 6d.
2. Antenuptial or Postnuptial Contract	... £1.
3. Agreement or Contract	... .. 1s.
4. Arbitration or Award :	
according to amount in dispute	... .. 2s. 6d. to 5s.
5. Authentication Certificate	... .. 10s.

6. Bill of Exchange or Promissory Note :
 - (1) Payable on demand 2d.
 - (2) Payable otherwise than on demand—
varying according to amount ... 1d. to 6d.
7. Bond :
 - (1) Any mortgage bond hypothecating
immovable property, etc.—
varying according to amount of debt 1s. to 5s.
 - (2) Auxiliary or collateral bonds at duty
at rates mentioned in (1) but not
exceeding 10s.
 - (3) Cession of such bond as mentioned
in (1)—varying according to amount. From 1s. to
2s. 6d.
8. Broker's Note :

Varying according to amount of con-
sideration 1d. to 1s.
9. Certificate by any person in a public or
official capacity 1s.
10. Company Capital Duty :

Five shillings per cent. on amount of
nominal capital.
11. Customs documents :

On each original bill or document of
entry, etc. 6d.
12. Duplicate original of any stamped
instrument 1s.
13. Lease or Agreement of Lease :

Varying according to monthly rental 6d. to £1.
If the lease be for a definite period of
one year or longer, duty varies
according to period lease 5s. to 15s.
Cession or Assignment of Lease ... 5s.
14. Marketable Security :
 - (a) If transferable only by registration
for every £10 or part thereof ... 6d.
 - (b) If made out to bearer or in any
manner so as to be transferable by
delivery only—for every £10 or part
thereof 2s.
15. Notarial Act or Instrument 2s.
16. Partnership : Agreement of Partnership £1.

17. Power of Attorney or any instrument of like kind :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Proxy to vote at any specified meeting or adjournment thereof ... | 1d. |
| (2) Any special power or substitution under any power of attorney ... | 1s. |
| (3) To act generally for the grantor ... | 5s. |
| (4) Of any kind not comprised in the foregoing | 1s. |

18. Description of Instrument :

Receipt—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) £1 or upwards but not exceeding £5 | 1d. |
| (b) Exceeding £5 | 2d. |

If given in respect of any fixed deposit made with any bank, for every £100 (or part thereof) and for every period of twelve months (or part thereof) ... 6d.

19. Security or Suretyship :

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Varying according to sum | 1d. to 1s. |
| (2) Where no amount is stated ... | 2s. 6d. |
| (3) Not comprised in the foregoing | 2s. 6d. |

20. Transfer Deed :

Relating to immovable property—for every £10 or part thereof 6d.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Land in Swaziland is held under freehold title subject to the mineral servitudes.

Registration is effected in the Swaziland Deeds Office, and surveys are controlled by the Surveyor-General for the Transvaal. All land and mineral concessions and the native areas were surveyed during the years 1904 to 1908.

At the five townships, Mbabane, Bremersdorp, Hlatikulu, Goedegun, and Stegi, several lots have been sold for residential and trading purposes.

No surveys of importance were undertaken.

No geological survey of the territory has been made.

Mining.

Mining is carried out under the authority of concessions granted by the late Swazi King Mbandeni and under the Crown Minerals Order in Council.

Alluvial tin mining continued in the vicinity of Mbabane but on a small scale owing to the low price of the metal.

Up to the present, the Government has thrown open for prospecting, areas aggregating 2,475 square miles, partly as Crown mineral areas and partly by consent of concessionaires under the Mineral Concession Areas Proclamation No. 47 of 1927.

The general depression of the mining industries has continued to have a deterrent effect on all mining and prospecting.

Patents and Trade Marks.

The following return shows the number of Patents and Trade Marks registered during the past four years :—

<i>Patents.</i>				<i>Trade Marks.</i>			
1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
1	5	—	—	7	56	33	39

The following return shows the number of companies registered during the last four years :—

1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
1	—	2	3

Financial and Economic Enquiry.

During the financial year Sir Alan Pim, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., assisted by Mr. S. Milligan, the representative in South Africa of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, conducted a financial and economic enquiry into the position of Swaziland.

Deferred Pay.

The following table shows the sums paid out in the territory during the last four years, to native labourers engaged on the deferred pay system, on their return from the gold mines in the Union, viz. :—

1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
£7,704	£7,774	£8,251	£9,816

Passes.

During the same period the number of passes issued to recruited labourers and to those desiring to travel outside the territory, generally to seek work on farms, was as follows, viz. :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Recruited labourers	4,942	4,630	5,465	5,954
Others	7,832	7,785	8,593	5,458
	12,774	12,415	14,058	11,412

B. NICHOLSON,

Government Secretary.

MBABANE,

2nd August, 1932.

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BARBADOS, 1931-32

(For Reports for 1929-30 and 1930-31 see Nos. 1499 and
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4' North and longitude 59° 37' West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is twenty-one miles long by fourteen miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1931 of 173,674. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed eighty settlers and founded Hometown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation

in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

"Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor in Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members, elected annually on the basis of a

moderate franchise. For electoral purposes the Island is divided into twelve constituencies, viz., the City of Bridgetown, and the eleven parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter, and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). During the year under review an Act was passed to amend the Law relating to Procedure at Elections of members to serve in the General Assembly or in the several Vestries of the Island. This Act, 1931 (No. 9), provides *inter alia* for the appointment of "presiding officers" to assist the Returning Officer in the performance of his duties.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 4,807, and is made up as follows :—

Bridgetown, 770; Saint Michael, 1,424; Christ Church, 727; Saint George, 257; Saint Philip, 287; Saint John, 128; Saint Joseph, 134; Saint Andrew, 238; Saint Peter, 251; Saint Lucy, 123; Saint James, 221; Saint Thomas, 247.

The total at the time of the last election—March, 1931—was 5,155. The reduction is no doubt due to the number of persons who have lost their qualifications as the result of the general depression, from which the Island is still suffering. During the past year a Bill to extend the franchise from the present income qualification of £50 a year to £30 was passed by the House of Assembly, but was rejected on the third reading in the Legislative Council.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7.6 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 17.0 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio*, and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio*, one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money Votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local government is in the hands of eleven Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2) and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of

Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highway Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population on 31st December, 1931, was estimated to be 173,674—76,374 being males and 97,300 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1930 is 1,492 or 0.9 per cent., and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by	...	365
and immigration exceeding emigration by	...	1,127
		<hr/> 1,492 <hr/>

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

		<i>Per cent.</i>
White	...	7
Black	...	71
Mixed	...	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish as well as the density per square mile.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Estimated Population.</i>	<i>Density.</i>
Saint Michael	61,500	4,108
Christ Church	21,500	962
Saint George	14,000	831
Saint Philip	15,000	638
Saint John	10,000	744
Saint James	10,500	861
Saint Thomas	7,500	564
Saint Peter	9,000	692
Saint Lucy	8,500	625
Saint Joseph	8,000	851
Saint Andrew	8,500	626

The average density per square mile for the Island is 1,048.

Marriages.

There were 949 marriages performed during 1931, 676 by the Church of England, 78 by the Wesleyans, 26 by the Moravians, 13 by the Roman Catholics, 27 were Civil and the remainder divided between 19 other denominations. Compared with last year this total shows a decrease of 13.8 per cent.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 10.98.

Illiterates.

The illiterate percentage is 15.07 as against 17.71 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	No.	Births.		Deaths.		
		Rate per M.	Illegitimate percentage.	No.	Rate per M.	Percentage uncertified.
1927 ...	5,317	31.59	66.81	3,401	20.21	4.3
1928 ...	5,672	33.76	65.99	5,057	30.01	3.0
1929 ...	5,421	32.04	63.37	4,016	23.74	3.3
1930 ...	5,596	32.67	62.85	3,954	23.08	2.4
1931 ...	4,853	28.06	60.46	4,488	25.95	2.0

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality rate has increased from 251 last year to 298. The highest rate in the parishes is 404 in Saint James, while the lowest is 179 in Saint Andrew. The rate for Bridgetown and Saint Michael is 313.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1923 and 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1931 amounted to 1,127, the average net increase for each year being 972. Statistics are not available to show other details of the migration of the population.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The "maximum mean" temperature varies between 82° F. in the cool months to nearly 88° F. in the hot season, the "minimum mean" being between 70° F. and 73° F. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the International list of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality.

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Total No. of deaths.</i>	<i>Age groups.</i>		
		<i>Under 5.</i>	<i>5 to 60.</i>	<i>60 and over.</i>
Dysentery	110	49	21	40
Pulmonary Tuberculosis . . .	118	1	110	7
Syphilis	653	545	92	16
Cancer	119	1	54	64
Pellagra	178	2	96	80
Diseases of the nervous system...	337	23	128	186
Diseases of the circulatory system.	447	1	149	297
Diseases of the respiratory system	278	159	84	35
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	716	597	27	92
Other diseases of the digestive system.	107	54	36	17
Nephritis*	289	45	140	104
Diseases of early infancy*	282	282	—	—
Old age	282	—	1	281

* Probably largely due to diet deficiency.

There were five accidents with relation to employment : two in quarrying stone, two by vehicles, one by fall from a ladder. No other deaths were due to "occupational causes," nor can work on estates or in factories be considered to have any appreciable effect on the death-rate.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

A hospital with an X-ray department is maintained in Bridge-town by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay-wards of two grades attached. The medical staff consists of three Resident Surgeons and nine Visiting Surgeons (two of whom are Ophthalmic and one Dental), a Matron, an Assistant Matron, a Tutor Sister, a Theatre Sister, and a Pay-Ward Sister, all English ; and seventy Nurses.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both these institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These eleven almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and are available for the treatment of infectious or contagious diseases.

In each parish there is a Parochial Medical Officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse free, or at reduced fees. Dis-

pensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the eleven parishes; in the other four the Parochial Medical Officers are paid extra to supply medicine free.

A Baby Welfare Clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc.

Venereal Diseases Clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the Parochial authorities in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, and Saint Joseph. The treatment is free in nearly every instance, but complaint is made that the patients will not continue it sufficiently long for cures to be effected.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, the General Board of Health, and eleven Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Chief Medical Officer is appointed for a period of three years and the Boards annually. The Port Health Officer with an Assistant Port Health Officer are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employ six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ seventy, twenty-four being in Saint Michael and twelve in Christ Church.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been considered necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works. ,

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded. About 66 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of

Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a very pure, continuous, piped supply under satisfactory pressure. There are 559 standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge. Except in localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half a mile from a standpost.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Apart from very inconsiderable quantities of mineral oil and allied products, such as manjak and tar sand, and sea island cotton, production of which has of late materially diminished, the wealth of Barbados is derived entirely from the products of the sugar-cane, of which approximately 35,000 acres are reaped annually, and as the sugar-cane occupies the ground from fourteen to eighteen months in the case of plant canes, and from two to three years in those districts where the rainfall allows planters to ratoon their crops, of necessity the system of agriculture has been developed to ensure the maximum production of sugar, regarding any other crop which may be grown as "catch crops" between the reaping of one sugar crop and the planting of the next.

Indeed with its population of more than a thousand to the square mile entirely dependent on the harvest of the 67,000 arable acres which the Island contains it is difficult to name any agricultural product other than sugar which could support a tithe of this population; and the very size of the population which has to be fed, watered, educated, and generally cared for, limits the introduction and use of those mechanical methods which have been devised for the most part, for the development of those wide territories where production is limited by lack of man power.

Three types of sugar are produced, namely, dark crystals of 96° polarization, muscovado sugar, and fancy molasses, and the following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating

fancy molasses thereto at 330 wine gallons to the long ton) of the production for the past six years :—

<i>Year.</i>							<i>Tons.</i>
1926	...	...	...	...	...	...	69,931
1927	...	...	...	...	...	...	77,801
1928	...	...	...	...	...	...	84,473
1929	...	...	...	...	...	...	87,798
1930	...	...	...	...	...	...	82,682
1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	61,531
1932	...	...	...	...	...	...	101,500 (estimate)

Each of the above figures of production includes 5,500 tons estimated as the annual local consumption of sugar.

There are no large units of production such as the "Centrals" of Cuba in Barbados and the plantations vary from 500 acres downwards, and their sugar-canes are manufactured either into fancy molasses by windmills or small steam plants, or into muscovado sugar by steam plants, or into dark crystals, by larger factories, of which the largest has a capacity of only 8,000 tons.

The extremely low cost of production which, apart from Java and Cuba, compares favourably with any other sugar-producing country in the world is very largely due to the plentiful supply of labour, and in spite of the small rainfall and correspondingly low tonnage the majority of plantations have been able to carry on during the period of depression.

It may be said without fear of contradiction that Barbados canes are the sweetest in the world and this very high standard is entirely due to the scientific production of new varieties during the past twenty-five years.

Even with its teeming population the supply of skilled agricultural labour is steadily decreasing due to a general drift to the towns, such as has taken place in most other countries, and Barbados is faced with the problem of creating employment for an ever increasing number of townsmen from the efforts of a correspondingly decreasing number of producers.

There is no labour recruiting, such as is known in other tropical Colonies. Each plantation has a varying number of located labourers who are required to work for a certain period of each week on the plantation which in return supplies them with land for a house and for the cultivation of their own domestic crops, such as yams, sweet potatoes, and eddoes. All agricultural labourers are of non-European descent.

Sugar controls the standard of living of all classes and during periods of low prices, such as are at present prevalent, or after a poor crop such as that produced in 1931 following on the drought of the previous year, although few cases of actual want have been noticeable, the standard of living necessarily suffers.

During the past decade a certain number of large estates have been broken up and sold out in small holdings, the owners of which are at present in possession of the following acreages :—

				<i>Acres.</i>
Holdings of less than 1 acre	...	...	...	3,514
Holdings between 1 and 3 acres	...	...	...	6,450
Holdings between 3 and 5 acres	...	...	...	1,800
Holdings more than 5 acres	...	...	...	2,185
Total				13,949

Unfortunately, either owing to the fact that the original purchase price has been uneconomic or because the plot is too small (five acres is regarded as the minimum on which a man can maintain himself and family), these cut-up plantations have generally proved a serious loss in capital value to Barbados in that their production has diminished very considerably.

Recently, however, efforts have been made to introduce more suitable crops than sugar for peasant cultivators and the formation of a Co-operative Marketing Association assisted by a loan of £500 from Government combined with the formation of a series of District Agricultural Societies has allowed the smaller farmer to divert his energies into channels which produce quicker and larger returns than he might expect from the cultivation of the sugar-cane.

Barbados, unlike the majority of West Indian Islands, is fortunate from the market-gardener's point of view, in having a town population of some 30,000 which require ground provisions and vegetables all the year round, and although considerable success has already attended the formation of these District Agricultural Societies there is still room for enormous development before the creation of an export trade becomes imperative.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Total Trade.</i>
					£	£	£
1927	...	...	...	...	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	...	...	...	...	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	...	...	...	...	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901
1930	...	...	...	...	1,731,786	1,062,916	2,794,702
1931	...	...	...	...	1,491,644	1,064,051	2,555,695

The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £26,563 less than in 1930. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1927	167,869
1928	185,863
1929	196,654
1930	181,171
1931	154,608

Imports during 1931 as compared with 1930 show a decrease of £240,142. The principal decreases of imports are seen in the following :—bags and sacks, empty, £12,680; boots, shoes, and slippers, £7,560; motor car tyres, £2,975; oilmeal and oilcake, £12,178; cement, £2,693; cotton piece-goods, £9,038; cotton manufactures, other, £8,213; fish, dried, salted, smoked, £10,688; cornmeal and maize, £3,026; flour, wheaten or rye, £8,556; rice, £25,715; haberdashery and millinery, £3,299; hats and bonnets, £4,151; hardware, £3,973; manures, all kinds, £21,699; bacon and hams, £2,175; beef, salted, £3,204; pork, £12,930; machinery, all kinds, £13,262; oil, edible, £6,023; oil, residue, £10,008; seed, cotton, £9,700; silk manufactures, £4,238; soap, common, £4,676; paper, writing, wrapping, etc., £2,014; wood and timber, white pine, spruce, etc., £6,155; pitch pine, £3,989; shingles, £4,188; wood manufactures, other kinds, £5,993; wool and woollen manufactures, £2,112; parcel post, £8,273.

The principal increases occurred in—animals, living, £5,155; motor cars and motor vehicles, £5,223; bran and pollard, £2,824; coal, £3,316; beans and peas, £3,083; iron and steel manufactures, £5,038; wood, staves and shooks, £9,697.

For the five years prior to 1931 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 23,426 tons. In 1931 the number of tons taken was 7,143. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

Year.	Steamships.	Tons of coal.
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008
1930	56	9,224
1931	33	7,143

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony.

The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade.

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	33·5	35·4	33·9	33·8	34·7
Canada ...	19·3	20·7	18·7	15·5	17·7
Other parts of the British Empire	18·5	17·2	17·6	19·3	18·2
United States of America ...	19·9	17·3	19·6	19·7	18·8
Other foreign countries ...	8·8	9·4	10·2	11·7	10·6

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1931, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows:—

	£
United Kingdom ...	516,603
Canada ...	262,942
Other parts of the British Empire ...	271,094
United States of America ...	279,891
Other foreign countries ...	158,439

Total imports are classified as follows:—

	£
Food, drink, etc. ...	561,734
Raw materials ...	161,265
Manufactured articles ...	704,696
Miscellaneous ...	61,274
	<hr/>
	£1,488,969
Specie ...	2,675
	<hr/>
	£1,491,644

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows:—

	Canada.	U.S.A.
	£	£
Boots and shoes ...	2,372	1,018
Butter ...	1,353	547
Oilmeal (cattle food) ...	20,757	11,107
Coal ...	—	13,230
Cornmeal ...	242	13,863
Fish (salted) ...	16,036	—
Flour ...	56,247	11,953
Oats ...	25,115	—
Manures ...	13,002	18,053
Salt beef ...	910	3,142
Pork ...	8,221	11,907
Wood (various) ...	26,289	14,052

The total value of exports was £1,064,051, of which £852,088 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony

and £211,963 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows:—

	1931.		1930.		1929.	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £
Sugar (tons) ...	34,422	360,639	50,444	473,152	65,517	722,389
Molasses (gals.) ...	7,790,451	426,073	9,085,307	305,620	8,035,779	233,813
Cotton (lb.) ...	336,899	21,056	25,426	3,029	8,858	728
Rum (gals.) ...	56,683	5,314	65,390	6,402	46,130	4,517

	1928.		1927.	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £
Sugar (tons) ...	62,659	875,239	53,106	815,637
Molasses (gals.) ...	7,229,181	288,699	8,258,690	426,698
Cotton (lb.) ...	14,249	1,680	187,709	20,726
Rum (gals.) ...	40,690	3,983	22,425	2,336

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 182,228 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows:—

	£
Bay Rum ...	403
Biscuits ...	6,699
Cotton Seed Meal ...	2,211
Fruit (tamarind) ...	5,202
Hides and Skins ...	4,100
Lime, " Building " ...	6,245
Manjak ...	308
Oils (edible) ...	1,824
Vegetables, fresh ...	9,235

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years:—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	141,078	159,731	78,381	39,000	43,183
Canada ...	1,024,297	923,079	799,230	657,343	619,359
Other Parts of the British Empire ...	76,489	68,473	64,401	64,150	67,116
United States of America ...	58,279	59,148	58,221	68,680	113,680
Other foreign countries ...	11,887	15,698	11,455	8,050	8,403
Stores (ships) ...	976	640	479	371	347
	<u>£1,313,006</u>	<u>1,226,769</u>	<u>1,012,167</u>	<u>837,594</u>	<u>852,088</u>

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1930 are:—

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
United Kingdom ...	.4	—
Canada ...	—	5.8
Other parts of the British Empire ...	.1	—
United States of America ...	5.2	—
Other foreign countries ...	.1	—

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the Island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

In Barbados the rates of wages are not high because the supply of labour is always in excess of the demand. Agriculture is the main source of the Island's prosperity and whether it be by working on the land or in the stores of Bridgetown the worker must measure his prosperity by the price in the world's market of sugar, the Island's staple industry.

Sugar is manufactured in Barbados to-day at a price often higher than that at which it can be sold, and should the estate proprietor adopt the natural course of saving himself by the introduction of labour-saving devices and by centralization, the State will be faced with the grave difficulty of finding a means of subsistence for those who have been displaced. The door to emigration is closed; in fact, for 1931, the increase of immigration over emigration amounted to 1,127.

The census report of 1921 gives the average number employed in agriculture as 34,157. This must be considered a fair estimate for to-day taking into account that no new industry has been developed and no other means of livelihood have been adopted by the people.

Agricultural labourers are usually employed on an average of nine hours per day for which they are paid at the following rates:—men: 1s. 3d. to 2s. per day; women: 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; and children: 6d. to 8d. per day. Labourers on sugar plantations and in factories generally live in houses owned by themselves but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amount advanced in instalments from their wages, and they are charged a small weekly sum for the plots on which their houses are built.

A large number of natives are employed as casual labourers on the wharves at the port of Bridgetown, their chief occupation being that of lightermen, porters, etc., for the loading and unloading of ships, and for the storage of cargo at the warehouses of the various shipping firms. The average wages paid for this class of labour is as follows:—Lightermen, from \$4.15 to \$6.35 per trip, divided between four men, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from \$5.40 to \$7.15 per trip when the cargo consists of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships labourers, \$1.50 per day per man for general cargo and from \$1.50 to \$2.40 per day for a coal cargo, according to the nature

of the duties performed, i.e., guymen receive \$1.50 per day, while spaders receive \$2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from \$5.00 to \$6.00 per week, casual labourers \$1.20 per day. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of \$1.00 per day, with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

With the very small sugar-cane crop of 1931, the volume of export trade was considerably reduced with consequent reduction of work for the casual labourer and, naturally, a consequent shrinkage in the import trade, because of the reduced spending power of the people.

It is not possible to give the number of those occupied as artisans, but the numbers engaged in the various trades are not inconsiderable. The census return of 1921 gives a total of 23,682 as engaged in industrial occupations. The wages paid to artisans average from 3s. to 5s. *per diem* according to the skill of the worker.

With the introduction of the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, the aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker shows promise of remaining at its usually high level, and it is hoped that increased facilities for technical training will be one of the results of the recent Education Commission that visited the Island.

In the census returns of 1921, 25,255 persons were given as being engaged in domestic service. Domestic servants and chauffeurs in the employ of persons of the upper class receive pay at the following rates :—

						<i>Per Week.</i>		
						<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Butler	...	...	...	...	...	10 to 15	0	
Housemaid	...	...	...	...	...	6 to 8	0	
Nurse	...	...	...	...	...	6 to 10	0	
Cook	...	...	...	...	...	10 to 12	6	
Chauffeur	...	...	...	...	...	20 to 30	0	
Gardener	...	...	...	...	...	8 to 10	0	

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be; this does not apply to chauffeurs whose pay seldom drops below the figures above quoted.

The number engaged in the fishing industry is approximately 1,000. These men are recruited from the same class as the agricultural labourer and their standard of living is about the same. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

A number of Barbadian seamen are employed on ships of the Canadian National Steamships and of the Furness Withy Line. Formerly ships of the Harrison Line carried Barbadian crews, but this practice was discontinued some years ago. The withdrawal of

the ships of the Lamport and Holt and Booth Lines has reduced the chances of employment to a great extent.

The total number in Government employment in 1921 was 1,175. In the clerical service salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for Chief Clerks. Heads of Departments, Magistrates, and Judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £700, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police Constables are paid from £78 for 3rd Class Constables to £135 for Sergeants; Prison Warders from £75 to £200, and Matrons from £45 to £150 per annum; Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 for males and from £25 to £75 for females. Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive Drivers £2 per week, Loco Firemen £1 per week, Loco Cleaners £1 per week; artisans \$1.00 to \$1.50 per day; Porters, Messengers, etc., \$3.90 to \$2.00 per week; Guards \$8.00 to \$7.20 per week; Platelayers, etc., 2s. 6d. to 1s. per day.

As regards the cost of living, the ordinary prices of necessary commodities are:—

Cornmeal	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.
Fire wood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	6d. to 8d. per tin.
Rice	2d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	6d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	10d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. 3d. per lb.
Milk (fresh)	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pint.
Flour	2d. per lb.
Salmon	10d. to 1s. 8d. per tin.
Fish	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	1s. per lb.
Coffee	6d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Kerosine oil	2d. to 3d. per pint.
Soap (household)	9d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 8d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per dozen.

In the case of Government officials, quarters, partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent), and unfurnished quarters, free of rent, for the Director of Agriculture,

the Inspector-General of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can of course live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of clothing, specially for the labouring classes, has decreased considerably within the past three years, and, although the short crop of 1931, coupled with the depressed condition of the sugar market, resulted in a scarcity of money with consequent suffering to a large section of the community, it cannot be said that the rates of pay at the present time are out of proportion to the cost of living.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 127 in 1931; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board is also taken by pupils of both second- and first-grade schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1931 was 23,678 and the average attendance 15,930, an increase of 397 and a decrease of 400 respectively as compared with the figures for 1930.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1931 was 394 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 168.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1931 were 254 and 178 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 103, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution. There are in Bridgetown several private schools for boys and girls that prepare pupils for the Cambridge Local Examination and for entry into the first- and second-grade schools.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academic ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1931 was £54,339, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc., £9,210 grants to first- and second-grade schools, £1,156 for University education, and £37,673 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses. A sum of £4,371 was voted for repairs and enlargement of elementary school buildings.

School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in six schools, while twenty-five schools provide instruction in other forms of

handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their first year's, thirteen their second year's, thirteen their third year's, fifteen their fourth year's, and nine their fifth year's, courses. To these last nine the Education Board have issued certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen on completion of their apprenticeship. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. Od. a year.

The Colony was visited in January by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to report on and submit recommendations for the improvement of the educational system. The Commission's Report has not yet been received.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 106 teachers, 61 male and 45 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 78 (40 male and 38 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children have not yet been dealt with owing to lack of funds.

At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was ninety and nine respectively. During the year the Salvation Army continued the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connexion with the scheme is included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given instruction in agriculture—applicable to the requirements of plantations—and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. Cooking is also taught.

The health at both institutions has been good.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick, and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals. It has been the custom when reporting on poor relief in the past to include the amount expended on the Government-controlled institutions such as the General Hospital, Mental Hospital, and the Leper Hospital. The following table shows the expenditure by Government on those institutions together with the amount expended parochially for the last two years :—

Year.	Parochial.			General Hospital.			Mental Hospital.			Leper Hospital.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1930	41,523	4	11½	22,910	8	10	11,924	13	0	4,625	17	8	80,984	4	5
1931	39,512	19	8	22,672	13	11	12,039	7	6	3,920	15	7	78,145	16	8

Much work of a useful character is carried on under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. This association, which is purely of a private character, is responsible for the establishment and working of the Girls Industrial Union at which girls of various classes of society form themselves into clubs where such useful crafts as cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy work, as well as the arts—music, drawing, and painting—are taught. The Baby Welfare League, of which mention is made in Chapter IV, is a subsidiary organization of the parent League, which is also responsible for the establishment of the Venereal Disease Clinics. A new venture, called the Family Welfare League, has recently been started, and in this time of distress due to unemployment is doing much to relieve the needs of destitute families of the better class who would be reluctant to apply for aid to the parochial body. Well organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and Girls' Friendly Society are established in the Colony.

There is no system of old age or health insurance in the Colony, but there are a large number of Friendly Societies which aim at three things, namely :—

- (i) the provision of a Christmas bonus ;
- (ii) provision for some small assistance during sickness ; and
- (iii) provision for burial.

The following figures afford useful information concerning the working of Friendly Societies in the Island :—

- (1) The number of members in all Societies to 30th June, 1931, was 43,491
- (2) The number of dependants of the above members was 109,674
- (3) The total contributions paid by members for the year ended 31st December, 1930 ... £49,552

Friendly Societies and Guilds are attached to many of the Churches and these provide for relief in sickness and death. A new form of organization styled " Land Ship " has been taken

up by the lower classes, who derive a means of recreation therefrom as well as relief in sickness and death as in the case of Friendly Societies.

There are many forms of recreation for the inhabitants of the Colony. The cheapest and most popular is sea bathing, for which ample facilities exist along the southern and western coasts, and in isolated spots on the eastern and windward coast. For the upper and middle classes there are two aquatic clubs which cater also for indoor recreation such as dancing, theatricals, etc. There is also a yacht club. A scheme for the provision on suitable sites of bathing sheds for the masses is under consideration.

Cricket is a popular game in the West Indies, and Barbados contributes in no small degree to the fame of these Islands in this pastime. The cricket season lasts from June to December and games are played on Saturdays. Some years ago there were many working men's clubs and a cup was presented by the Frame Food Company for competition among them; for one reason or another, these clubs went out of existence, but the practice shows signs of revival, and it is hoped to see once again the poorer classes taking an active interest in playing the game as they take in watching it played by others.

Association football is played from January to April and all classes take an active part in the game.

There are many good tennis clubs in the Island, and an up-to-date golf club.

Troops of boy scouts and girl guides are attached to the majority of the secondary schools and many elementary schools have taken up scout-craft.

The Barbados Volunteer Force and the Cadet Corps of the secondary schools provide recreation as well as useful training for their members.

There are two cinematograph theatres in Bridgetown at which talking pictures are shown to large audiences. The Island is visited occasionally by dramatic companies from the United Kingdom or the Dominion of Canada.

There is an Arts and Crafts Society and an Art Section at the Annual Industrial Exhibition at which local artists have an opportunity of displaying their work.

The Barbados Choral Society with a membership of about 80, under the conductorship of the Cathedral organist, gives two public performances annually, one at the middle of the year at which secular music is rendered, the venue being the Hall at Queen's Park, and the other consisting of Christmas Carols, which are rendered at Saint Michael's Cathedral. The Cathedral possesses a three-manual organ by Messrs. Walker on which a regular monthly recital is given on the second Monday in each month. The Police Band renders weekly programmes at Hastings Rocks, under private management, and at Queen's Park, a public institution under the control of the Saint Michael's Vestry.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.**Roads.**

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 280 miles of main roads and approximately 190 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1931-2, the sum of £137,886 has been spent on 73 miles of seven arterial roads plus £72,866 from Government grants and Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's Parish.

Railways.

A light railway twenty-four miles long runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £12,000. The actual expenditure, including extraordinary outlay, was £11,227, and the actual revenue £6,527.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1931.	1930.	1929.
Passengers	58,877	83,571	91,204
Live Stock	139	109	171
<i>Goods :—</i>	<i>1931.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1929.</i>
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses	7,515	15,679	16,663
Canes	4,060	7,204	9,078
Fuel	87	232	156
Sundries	4,932	7,867	9,704
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,594	30,978	35,601
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence, and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts.

Competition with one or two small companies has forced the larger concern to keep its fares down to the low rate of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

A regular daily service inwards on mornings, and outwards on evenings, from the country districts is maintained by the General Motor Omnibus Company as well as by several individual owners of one or two omnibuses.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Between Europe and West Indies :—

Royal Netherlands Line.
Elders and Fyffes Line.
Harrison Line.
Leyland Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.

Between Canada, Boston, and British West Indian Colonies :—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies, Central and South America :—

Aluminum Line.

Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.

Booth Line.

Ocean Dominion Line.

Western Ocean Line.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	<i>Steamers.</i>		<i>Sailing Ships.</i>		<i>H.M. Ships.</i>	
	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
Mails for Barbados ...	525	534	4	5	—	25
Mails from Barbados...	525	520	49	49	—	1

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private branch exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 5,400.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, station at Bridgetown.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,086, with a net tonnage of 1,914,328 as compared with 1,121 vessels with a tonnage of 2,039,744 during the previous year. In addition thirteen ships of war, eleven yachts, and three training ships visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 2,559, while 2,451 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service on ships was £20,900 as compared with £39,000 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines

serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct, and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same company operates the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curacao, Haiti, and New York; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-named ports, touch at Boulogne. This service ceased in December, 1931.

The Fyffes Line (Elders and Fyffes Limited) make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth calling at Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Cristobal, Jamaica, thence to Avonmouth. This company also carries out a fortnightly service to the West Indies sailing from Swansea thence to Jamaica, Santa Marta, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados, Southampton, and Bremerhaven. The duration of the voyage, Avonmouth-Barbados is thirteen days and from Barbados-Southampton, eleven days.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Southampton, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey, these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam instead of at Southampton and Antwerp. It is possible that this company will, in the near future, operate a fortnightly service.

The Canadian National Steamships Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), and the Munson Steamship Line. Ships on the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados en route to British and Dutch Guiana.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid up capital of the first named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are \$35,000,000 and \$30,000,000 respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which at the end of the year under review, there were 10,606 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £512,530. The value of the invested funds was £661,721. The figures for 1930 were : deposits £537,445, invested funds £673,861, and number of depositors 10,634. The number of depositors shows a decrease of 28, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £24,915.

An amendment to the Savings Bank Act passed in 1929 authorized the writing off to Profit and Loss Account of all accounts whose balances were less than one dollar with which no transaction had taken place for a period of five years. Under this amendment 1,464 accounts were closed, the total amount written off being £119 15s. 3d. If subsequently claimed the amounts written off are paid. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor in Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, *ex officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1932, after paying income-tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,799 0s. 9d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1931, was £210,024, as compared with £203,225 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,897, as compared with £2,685 for the previous year.

Loans and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at \$4.80 to the pound sterling.

British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The administration of public works is under the control of a Superintendent of Public Works. The Department is responsible for the upkeep of all Government buildings including the military properties in the garrison which are now under Government control, bridges, wharves, and lighthouses.

The Legislature has accepted a proposal for the amalgamation of the Water-Works and Public Works Department under the control of a Director of Public Works and the scheme will be put into operation during the coming year.

The roads and railways are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

The only work of importance carried out by the Department during the year was the laying on of water to 16 elementary schools.

A grant was received from the Colonial Development Fund for the establishment of a Central Venereal Diseases Clinic and a loan from the Fund of £16,000 has been made towards the improvement of the Public Market. The Colonial Advisory Committee have also agreed to make a free grant of one-third of the total expenditure on a scheme for the improvement of the Colony's water-supply, the remainder to be obtained by loan. It has been decided to proceed only with the installation of a new pumping plant at Bowmanston Station, the estimated cost of which is £30,000. None of the works above mentioned were commenced during the year.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction (not exceeding £50 at Common Law and £500 in Equity) is vested in two Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. These Judges are also Judges of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts. From the decisions and judgments of Police Magistrates

and Judges of Petty Debt Courts there is a right of appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal, the Registrar of the Island sitting with a Judge of that Court to hear appeals from the other Judge in his capacity as Judge of the Petty Debt Court at Bridgetown.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,083.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as, for instance, those against in transit seamen, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, a Senior and a Junior Inspector, and 408 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, forty-four, including four supernumeraries, are attached to the Harbour Police and perform regular harbour duties. An efficient band is attached to the Force.

The Inspector-General is also Commandant of the Local Forces and is charged also with the control of the Fire Brigade consisting of twenty-five men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking, and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1931 for Government Departments was £143. The bakery supplied approximately 31 tons of bread to the Mental and Leper Hospitals during the same period. All clothes washing and cooking is done by the female prisoners.

Juvenile adult prisoners are segregated as far as possible from adults and are instructed in one of the above-mentioned trades.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1931 was good.

Provision for Juvenile Courts with a Probation System is now before the Legislature. A Prisoners' Aid Society has recently been formed.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Total number of persons committed to prison	998	1,250	1,490
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	47	29	36
Daily average in prison (males)	137	153	171
Daily average in prison (females)	28	31	35
Police Court convictions	9,173	10,105	10,344
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	480	459	422
Convictions by Superior Court	54	59	58

Until the Prisoners' Aid Society was formed, there was a scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army with the Governor of the Prison as a member of the After-care Committee.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The following Acts were passed during the Legislative Session, 1931-32 :—

1931.

- No. 10. The Highways (Amendment) Act increases the taxes on animals, vehicles and land authorized to be collected by Act No. 7 of 1900.
- No. 11. The Property and Conveyancing Act permits a Corporation Sole to succeed to property of any description and continues the validity of contract entered into or appointment made by a Corporation Sole after the occurrence of a vacancy in such office of Corporation Sole.
- No. 12. The Plantations Limited (Jetty Extension) Act.
- No. 13. The Mongoose and Rat (Destruction) Amendment Act temporarily increases the payments for the destruction of mongoose and rats.
- No. 14. The Gill Pension Act.
- No. 15. The Petroleum (Amendment) Act.
- No. 16. The Agricultural Credit Societies (Amendment) Act increases the minimum value of the share which each member of a society must hold on joining the society and levies an annual subscription on each member.
- No. 17. The Small Pension Act.
- No. 18. The Taxation of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act exempts from taxation and the payment of a penalty certain owners of motor lorries.
- No. 19. The Public Loan (Roads) Act.
- No. 20. The Trade (Amendment) Act allows a drawback similar to that allowed in respect of cotton seed oil of the duty paid on cotton seed meal manufactured from imported cotton seed.
- No. 21. The Rates of Income Tax Act.
- No. 22. The Emergency Control of Prices Act permits the Governor in Executive Committee, on the occurrence in the Island of a hurricane or earthquake, to fix maximum prices that may be charged for necessary commodities.

- No. 23. The Watson and Fleming (Extension of time for payment of Patent Fees) Act.
- No. 24. The Railway Pensions and Gratuities (Validity) Act.
- No. 25. The Post Office (Amendment) Act increases the postage on newspapers.
- No. 26. The Income Tax (Amendment) Act reduces the number of Income Tax Commissioners from three to one and alters the method of assessing companies.
- No. 27. The Stamp (Amendment) Act imposes a stamp duty on police certificates issued to intending travellers.
- No. 28. The Supplementary Appropriation Act.
- No. 29. The Education (Amendment) Act reduces the number of Vestry Exhibitions tenable at Queen's College, a first-grade school, to enable exhibitions to be awarded at Saint Michael's, a second-grade school.
- No. 30. The Quarantine (Amendment) Act provides for payment by the owners, masters, or agents of ships of expenses incurred in guarding passengers, officers, crew, or labourers detained at the Quarantine Station.
- No. 31. The Mosaic Disease (Eradication) Amendment Act removes the minimum fine that may be imposed for offences against Section 10 of the principal Act.

1932.

- No. 1. The Midwives and Nurses Registration Act provides for the registration and better training of midwives and nurses and regulates their practice.
- No. 2. The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act levies a specific duty on seeds and beans imported for expressing oil therefrom.
- No. 3. The Georgina Clarke Jetty Act.
- No. 4. The Girl Guides Association Act furthers and protects the activities and interests of the Girl Guides Association in the Island.
- No. 5. The Beresford Packer Gittens Dental Registration Act.
- No. 6. The Imperial and International Communications Company Act confers and imposes on Imperial and International Communications Company some of the privileges and duties conferred and imposed on the Pacific Cable Board.
- No. 7. The Travelling Allowance Act allows the Governor and the Education Board to compel officers to keep means of conveyance.
- No. 8. The Trade (Amendment) Act alters the method of computing tonnage dues.

- No. 9. The Veterinary Surgeons Act provides for the registration of qualified Veterinary Practitioners.
- No. 10. The Appropriation Act.
- No. 11. The Expiring Laws Continuance Act.
- No. 12. The Taxation of Motor Vehicles Act alters the taxes payable in respect of motor vehicles to secure a more equitable correlation between the tax and the weight of the motor vehicle.

The following subsidiary legislation was issued during the year :—

Proclamations.

- (1) Appointing a day for special supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.
- (2) Prohibiting the planting of corn in certain areas.
- (3) Declaring certain areas infected with mosaic disease.
- (4) Bringing into operation the Legitimacy Act, 1930 (No. 29).
- (5) Bringing into operation the Agricultural Credit Societies Act, 1924 (No. 1).

Orders.

- (1) Appointing a close season for cotton.
- (2) Appointing a close season for okras.
- (3) Declaring that Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1926, shall apply to dihydromorphine and its salts and to any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of dihydromorphinone.
- (4) Prohibiting the importation of fresh fruit from places mentioned in the Schedule to the Order owing to the existence of the Mediterranean fruit fly in those countries.

Rules and Regulations.

- (1) The Air Navigation Directions, 1931.
- (2) Prohibiting the importation of animals from any country where glanders or farcy exists.
- (3) Changing the date for the applications for Island Scholarships.
- (4) The Passengers' Baggage Regulations, 1931.
- (5) Changing the hours for visiting patients at the Mental Hospital.
- (6) Amending the Regulations relating to the Market Slaughter House.

(7) The Post Office Regulations, 1931, imposing a tax on cash-on-delivery packets.

(8) The Parcels Post Regulations, 1931, rescinding the Post Office Regulations, 1931, and imposing a delivery fee on parcels and certain packets.

(9) Changing the scale of commission on money orders issued on the United States of America, the Virgin Islands, the Panama Canal Zone, and Canada until further notice.

(10) The Registration of Letters Regulation, 1931.

(11) Amending the Rules made on 17th September, 1912, under Section 179 of the Trade Act, 1910, with respect to gratuities on ship letters.

(12) Introducing the service of small packets into Barbados.

(13) Amending the Regulations relating to returned letters and packets.

Compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen is provided for by the Employers Liability Act, 1896 (No. 7). There is no factory legislation and legislative provision for sickness and old age is contained in the Poor Relief Act, 1892 (No. 2) as amended by Acts Nos. 50 of 1917 and 39 of 1928, the administering of such relief being in the hands of the parochial authorities.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

				<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
				£	£
1927-28	...	...	...	414,884	481,252
1928-29	...	...	...	441,732	459,626
1929-30	...	...	...	453,802	450,696
1930-31	...	...	...	404,555	429,143
1931-32	...	...	...	415,645	424,088

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1931-32 was £408,093, as compared with £395,532 for 1930-31, and the ordinary expenditure £416,536, compared with £420,120. Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on 31st March, 1932, was £1,098.

<i>Special Funds.</i>				£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	...	...	...	56,667	18	3
Water Boat Renewal Fund	...	...	...	12,771	11	6
Red Cross Fund	...	...	...	1,862	2	5
Public Officers' Security Fund	...	...	...	10,535	12	0
Special Reserve Fund	...	...	...	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	...	...	...	29,635	1	11½
Road Reconstruction Fund	...	...	...	11,611	4	0½
				£223,083	10	2

Revenue.

The revenue for 1931-32 shows an increase of £11,090 over that of the previous year, the principal head showing increases being "Reimbursements" £21,545. The increase under all heads was £28,733, while the decreases totalled £17,643. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1931-32, excluding loan disbursements, was £416,536, a decrease of £3,584 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £5,055 less than in 1930-31.

The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water-Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

		<i>Compared</i>		<i>with 1930-31.</i>	
		£		£	
Police	...	44,208	a decrease of	...	1,281
Education	...	53,438	an increase of	...	1,804
Medical	...	46,156	a decrease of	...	351
Water-Works	...	45,320	an increase of	...	5,954
		£189,122			

The total expenditure on these four departments, £189,122, represents 44 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £21,786. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds had not been finally decided at the end of the year.

As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £5,055.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at 31st March, 1932, was £663,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £368,839, as compared with £345,517 in 1931. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1932, were as follows:—

<i>Name of Loan.</i>	<i>Amount of Loan.</i>			<i>Amount outstanding.</i>			<i>Sinking Fund.</i>			<i>Date Redeemable.</i>
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Water-Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	317,447	1	7	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act, 1887	92,000	0	0	13,850	1	1	November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	9,760	2	5	{ £11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	26,558	10	2	{ £35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	1,223	19	0	{ £25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 7th October, 1978.
	£741,000	0	0	£663,000	0	0	£368,839	14	3	

The revenue derived from the main heads of taxation during the year was as follows :—Customs £196,838, Excise Duty on Rum and Distillers' Licences £53,829, and Income-Tax £27,633. The Stamp Act, 1916-17, and the amendments thereto impose duties for the use of the Island upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to the said Act. Revenue derived from this source during the year was :—embossing cheques, £673 ; licences on note issue of banks, £225 ; and sale of stamps for revenue purposes under the Stamp Act, £2,917.

Customs Tariff (summarized). The Customs Tariff Act at present in force is Act No. 20 of the year 1921 as amended by Act No. 25 of the year 1926 which substituted a new tariff of duties. Further amendinents were effected by Act No. 10 of 1927, Act No. 10 of 1930, and Act No. 2 of 1932.

These Acts provide for preferential and general rates of duty, the former rates applying to all articles of British Empire origin, the latter to goods from foreign sources.

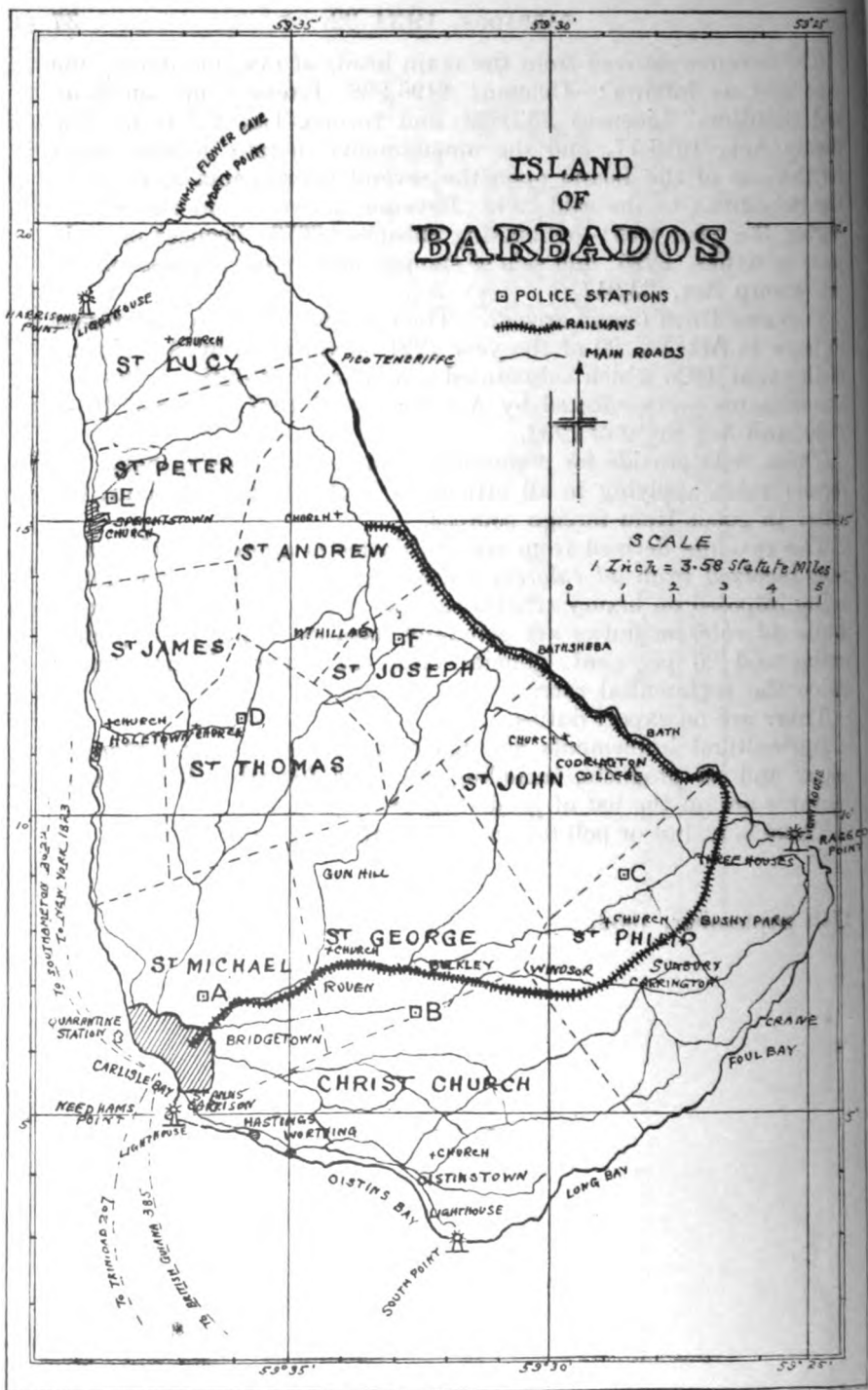
The revenue derived from specific duties is approximately twice that received from *ad valorem* duties, high rates of specific duties being imposed on luxury articles such as spirits, wines, and tobacco while *ad valorem* duties are generally fixed at 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general rate, the general being usually twice the preferential rate.

There are no export duties.

Agricultural implements and machinery for the manufacture of sugar and its products, including rum and for other local manufactures are on the list of goods free of duty.

There is no hut or poll tax in force in the Colony.

17th September, 1932.



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No. 1596

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
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BERMUDA, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1517 and 1546
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15' North latitude and 64° 51' West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1931 was between 49.4° F. in January and 94.8° F. in August. The mean temperature for the year was 71.5° F. and the mean relative humidity 84° F. The total rain-fall was 52.7 inches, or 5.97 inches below the average for the past 10 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 29.962.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

	<i>White.</i>		<i>Coloured.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	6,347	6,774	20,127
1931 "	6,090	5,263	8,084	8,352	27,789
Increase	2,808	1,539	1,737	1,578	7,662
" per cent.	85	41	27	23	38
			<i>1921.</i>		<i>1931.</i>
Births	...	...	33·18 per 1,000.		26·9 per 1,000.
Deaths	...	...	18·37 " "		13·3 " "
Marriages	...	...	8 " "		10 " "
Infantile mortality	...	...	135 " "		95·8 " "
Emigration	...	...	92 " "		not available.
Immigration	...	...	197 " "		" "

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1927 to 1931 with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Chicken-pox ...	35	67	92	15	17
Diphtheria ...	19	32	175	54	8
Typhoid ...	14	3	4	8	4
Tuberculosis ...	12	10	16	13	17
Measles ...	2	9	6	460	142
Scarlet Fever...	1	1	5	—	33
Other diseases ...	32	628	222	28	52
	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 750	<hr/> 520	<hr/> 578	<hr/> 273

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1931 was as follows: 11 from tuberculosis, 18 from pneumonia.

By the inoculation of school children it is hoped to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak of diphtheria which occurred in 1929.

A District Health Officer has been appointed for the Western District and free clinics are held by him. These clinics are well attended and are proving of considerable value. It is proposed to appoint a District Health Officer for the Eastern District in the near future.

The provision of District Nurses by the Bermuda Welfare Society has contributed greatly to the general improvement in health throughout the islands.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The housing problem is receiving consideration at the present time as rents are high and the cost of building great.

Draft regulations for the control of buildings are about to be transmitted to the Legislature.

The majority of the wage-earning population rent well-constructed stone houses.

There are several cases of overcrowding which are receiving attention.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The provision of a Government Packing House and the supervision and grading of produce are having a marked effect in increasing the popularity of Bermuda products in the Canadian markets.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1927 to 1931, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

		<i>Quantity (Bushels).</i>	<i>Net Bermuda Exports. Value. £</i>	<i>Consumed locally. Farm value. £</i>	<i>Total value of crop. £</i>
1927	...	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128
1928	...	420,802	138,243	142,957	281,200
1929	...	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600
1930	...	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050
1931	...	212,100	121,753	143,247	265,000

Owing to the greater demand for the less valuable agricultural commodities, the total value of the crop in the last three years shows a decrease, although the quantity produced has increased.

The chief crops and their destinations in 1931 were as follows :—

<i>Vegetable.</i>		<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Country of Destination.</i>
Potatoes...	...	15,028 barrels	United States of America
		273 „	Canada
		769 „	British West Indies
Celery ...	...	37,604 bushels	United States of America
		8,906 „	Canada
Parsley ...	...	302 „	United States of America
Carrots ...	...	10,956 „	Canada
Kale ...	...	11,199 „	United States of America
Onions ...	...	3,360 „	Canada
		52 „	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	...	4,900 „	Canada

The total value of the exports to the United States was £108,627. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 4,019 cases were shipped, to the value of £10,855. Exports to Canada were valued at £6,369 and to the West Indies at £4,009. There was no export of Bermuda produce to Great Britain.

Agriculture is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers of European descent. All holdings are of less than 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 2,087 acres.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1931 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York ; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, one to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and one to the Munson Line. The Furness Company were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year.

Two fortnightly services from Canada to the British West Indies call at Bermuda on both northbound and southbound voyages ; one of these services touches at Boston, Mass.

Steamers from England to the British West Indies and South America touch at Bermuda on the outbound voyage.

The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years ; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season continued to show an increase in 1931.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

					<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Tourists.</i>
					£	
1926	...	...	...	...	34,904	27,214
1927	...	...	...	...	36,694	30,816
1928	...	...	...	...	35,199	36,391
1929	...	...	...	...	50,243	39,052
1930	...	...	...	...	51,676	43,094
1931	...	...	...	...	58,499	47,376

These figures do not include 25,962 arrivals in cruise ships.

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,000 in America, £2,500 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,250 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £28,600 are included in the expenditure of this Board. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

					<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
					£	£
1927	...	...	...	...	1,532,794	249,958
1928	...	...	...	...	1,587,470	177,015
1929	...	...	...	...	1,718,248	185,903
1930	...	...	...	...	1,954,568	191,727
1931	...	...	...	...	2,463,259	119,005

Imports.

				1930.	1931.
				£	£
<i>From</i>					
United Kingdom	...	...		510,496	991,219
British Colonies	...	...		545,091	482,469
Foreign Countries	...	...		898,981	989,571
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				£1,954,568	£2,463,259
				<hr/>	<hr/>

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £40,344 ; butter, £32,745 ; beef, £28,294 ; bran, £24,944 ; canned goods, £35,936 ; clothing, £85,912 ; cotton goods, £20,665 ; electrical goods, £167,484 ; fancy goods, £262,075 ; flour, £23,153 ; furniture, £136,660 ; groceries, £63,266 ; hardware, £93,694 ; meats, £44,717 ; oats, £27,137 ; poultry, £24,385 ; woollen goods, £35,786 ; fruit (fresh), £34,139 ; malt liquor, £38,210 ; whisky, £186,950.

Exports.

				1930.	1931.
				£	£
<i>To</i>					
United Kingdom	...	...		159	—
British Colonies...	...	...		31,605	10,378
Foreign Countries	...	...		159,963	108,627
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				£191,727	£119,005
				<hr/>	<hr/>

Chief Articles of Export.

		1930.	1931.
		£	£
Empty oil barrels	... ..	28,268	37,801
Lily bulbs	... ..	16,706	11,305
Potatoes	... ..	44,101	16,070
Other Vegetables	... ..	93,927	24,356

Owing to the operation of the preferential tariff there was a continued marked increase in the importation of manufactured goods from the British Empire.

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	8s. to 10s. a day.	54 hrs. a week.
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day.	53 hrs. a week.
Painters and carpenters	ditto.	ditto.
Building labourers	8s. to 10s. a day	ditto.
Cooks	£4 to £7 a month.	
Maids	£2 10s. to £4 10s. a month.	
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.	

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. Prior to the opening, in November, of the Bermuda Railway, the only form of land transport other than bicycle was either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3s. for half a mile or less and 8s. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 10d. per kilowatt for light and 5d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,315 in 1931. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 3,648, and the average attendance 3,050 or 84 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1931 are as follows :—

	<i>White.</i>	<i>Coloured.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Aided schools	771	2,060	2,831
Unaided	236	145	381
Taught at home	28	38	66
Physically or mentally unfit	26	11	37
	<hr/> 1,061 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,254 <hr/>	<hr/> 3,315 <hr/>

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1931 was £33,454, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,528
Pensions	203
Scholarships	1,422
Buildings	3,446
General Grant	15,031
Special Grants	11,824

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local University, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(a) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(b) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

CHAPTER X. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 7,476,497 tons, an increase of 1,736,749 tons compared with 1930.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

		<i>British.</i>		
		<i>Steam.</i>	<i>Sail.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
		<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Entered ...	...	2,175,146	744	2,175,890
Cleared ...	...	2,177,145	1,565	2,178,710
Total British Shipping ...		...	...	4,354,600
		<i>Foreign.</i>		
		<i>Steam.</i>	<i>Sail.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
		<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Entered ...	...	1,554,529	6,634	1,561,163
Cleared ...	...	1,554,857	5,877	1,560,734
Total foreign shipping ...		...	...	3,121,897

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian National Steamships.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No new roads were constructed, and no development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Four hundred and sixty-eight mails were received from overseas and 321 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to

the constant stream of tourists. The number of parcels received was 80,206. The money-order business amounted to £99,927. Of this, orders to the value of £90,134 were issued and £9,793 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1d. per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West Indies Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are : New York 1s. 6d., and England 2s. 4d. a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11s. 8d. (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 KW. The wave-length is between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 KW. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations. Wireless telephonic communication is now maintained with New York and, by relay, to Canada and Europe.

Telephones.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10s. 0d. (residential) to £11 10s. 0d. per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. An automatic system is about to be installed.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £833,214 and £769,255, respectively.

English currency, weights, and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1 and 10s. notes to supplement the supply of English notes which is small.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. A sum of £420,628 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to

450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channel is being carried out.

During the year 1931, 26 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging, 20 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 54 per cent. on general works.

A sum of £2,992 was expended on the new school for coloured children, designed to accommodate 1,000 scholars. The total cost of this school is £23,208.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £18,897.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

266 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 256 in 1930. Of these, 241 were men; 113 were first offenders, 7 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 150 for three months or less.

1,101 persons were prosecuted, of whom 72 were discharged, 991 punished on summary conviction, and 38 convicted by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 22 were for offences against property and 15 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45, and the one at St. George's 18 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military Authorities. Considerable extra-mural labour used to be carried out, but this has been practically abandoned.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
1.	The Glebe Act, 1931.
2.	The Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
3.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1931.
4.	The Revenue Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
5.	The Customs Tariff Act, Amendment Act, 1931.
6.	The Public Carriage Act, 1931.
7.	The West End Entertainment Act, 1931.
8.	The Biological Station Act, 1931.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
9.	The Post Office Act, 1900, Amendment Act, 1931.
10.	The Summary Offences and Jurisdiction Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1931.
11.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
12.	The St. David's Island Bridge Act, 1931.
13.	The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1931.
14.	The Public Officers Leave and Relief Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1931.
15.	The St. George's Ordinance Confirmation Act, 1931.
16.	The Bermuda Cadet Corps Act, 1931.
17.	The Bermuda Development Company Act, 1931.
18.	The Companies Act, 1931.
19.	The Meteorological Station Act, 1931.
20.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
21.	The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1931.
22.	The Dredger Loan Act, 1931.
23.	The Superannuation Act, 1931.
24.	The Bermuda Railway Act, 1931.
25.	The Immigration Act, 1931.
26.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 3) 1931.
27.	The Appropriation Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
28.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 3) 1931.
29.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
30.	The Bermuda Welfare Society Act, 1931.
31.	The Public Health Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
32.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1931.
33.	The Treasury Advances Act, 1931.
34.	The Allocation of Colonial Lands Act, 1931.
35.	The Malicious Injuries to Property Act, 1931.
36.	The Smith and Scott, Limited, Act, 1931.
37.	The Justices Civil Jurisdiction Act, 1922, Amendment Act, 1931.
38.	The Immigration Act (No. 2) 1931.
39.	The Non-Resident Businesses Act, 1931.
40.	The Revenue Department Act, 1931.
41.	The Firearms Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
42.	The Public Officers' Bonds Act, 1931.
43.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
44.	The Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
45.	The Appropriation Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
46.	The Bermuda Railway Act, 1931.
47.	The Bermuda High School for Girls Association Act, 1931.
48.	The Horticulturist Act, 1931.
49.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1931.
50.	The Appropriation Act, 1931.
51.	The Governor's Salary Act, 1931.

The most important Acts passed during the year were No. 25, The Immigration Act; No. 39, The Non-Resident Businesses Act; and No. 51, The Governor's Salary Act.

The control of immigration was formerly divided between the Governor and a Board, but the Immigration Act placed the entire control in the hands of a special Board and put restrictions on immigration.

The Non-Resident Businesses Act makes it obligatory to have a licence to carry on any business in Bermuda.

The Governor's Salary Act provides for the payment of the whole of the Governor's emoluments, thus relieving the Imperial Treasury of the portion formerly paid from War Office and Colonial Office funds.

There was during 1931 no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, or provision for sickness or old age.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1927-1931 :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Recurrent Expenditure.</i>	<i>Expenditure from Reserves.</i>
		£	£	£
1927	...	259,943	268,495	35,847
1928	...	294,174	287,224	16,418
1929	...	331,448	334,262	—
1930	...	429,190	409,572	—
1931	...	464,351	458,700	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £343,727 represents Customs receipts. Miscellaneous revenue amounted to £120,623.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties. The increase in revenue reflects a general increase in the consumption of commodities consequent on the growth of the tourist traffic.

There is a Government Note issue of £221,289 of which notes of £1 and 10s. denominations to the amount of £89,954 were issued during the year.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £221,840 on 1st January, 1932. There is no coin reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £97,595, against £92,094 and £91,486 in 1930 and 1929 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £131,636 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £27,614 3s. 8d. £70,796 borrowed in 1930 for the purchase of the new dredger is repayable in four annual payments of which one, amounting to £14,160, was made in 1931.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1931, was £113,700. The surplus monies available for general purposes on this date were £55,682.

The total assets amounted to £432,486 of which £221,840 was held for Government Notes redemption, £110,379 for the Savings Bank, and £34,686 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From <i>ad valorem</i> duties	178,457
„ Surtax	47,362
„ Duty on spirits	28,539
„ Cigars and cigarettes	16,114
„ Rum	13,256
„ Malt liquor	12,126
„ Export tax	14,897

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on each passenger ticket entitling any person to leave Bermuda. It has not been possible to state the amount raised by this form of taxation as the stamps have been sold by the Post Office as well as the Treasury, but in future, under new arrangements, a check can be kept on this amount, A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Lefroy's History of the Bermudas ; Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswood.

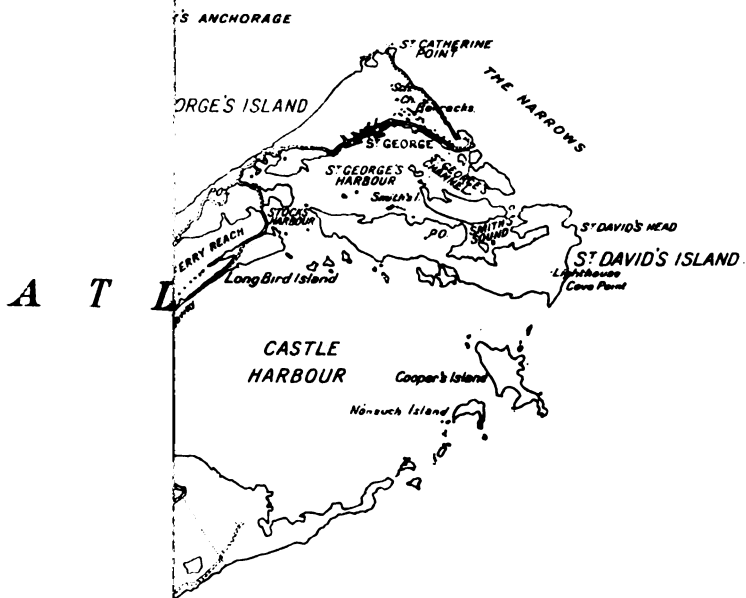
Hayward's "Bermuda Past and Present" ; Messrs. Dodd Mead and Company, New York.

Departmental Reports ; Crown Agents for the Colonies, 2s. each.

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat.
32° 23'



A T L

CASTLE
HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

DANIEL HEAD

LOBSTER FLAT

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA. —

Scale of Miles

0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Parish Boundaries —

N Lat.
32° 14'

N Lat.
32° 14'

W Lon 64° 54'
61/50771/820/625, 10/22

W Lon 64° 37'

Maib & Sons, Ltd.

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.	9d. (10d.).
The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.)	1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).
British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927-29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on the Cultivation, Treatment and Prospects of Rice in British Guiana. (E.M.B. 32.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Dissemination of Research Results among Agricultural Producers. (E.M.B. 33.)	1s. (1s. 4d.).
The Demand for Empire Butter. (E.M.B. 34.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
The Relative Values of Cod Liver Oils from various sources. (E.M.B. 35.)	1s. (1s. 4d.).
The Behaviour and Diseases of the Banana in Storage and Transport. (E.M.B. 36.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Demand for Canned Fruits. (E.M.B. 37.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Report of Proceedings of the Imperial Wool Research Conference, 1930.	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
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ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

MAURITIUS, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1503 and 1549
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REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF MAURITIUS FOR THE YEAR 1931.

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The island of Mauritius is of volcanic origin. The dependencies comprise a large number of small islands between 230 and 1,200 miles away. The largest, Rodrigues, which lies 350 miles to the north-east of Mauritius, had a population of 8,202 in April, 1931, whilst that of the lesser islands was 1,457.

Mauritius is situated just within the tropics and enjoys a climate free from extremes of weather except that tropical cyclones at times cause considerable damage to crops, but rarely to buildings. For a great part of the year south-east trade winds, heavily laden with moisture, blow gently over the island tempering the tropical heat. The rain falls mostly in showers. Particularly in the summer months, December-March, the south-east winds are replaced by the light variable winds of the doldrums, which cause discomfort to Europeans, although the temperatures are not high, whereas in the winter months in the residential districts at altitudes of 1,300 to 1,800 feet the temperature may fall to 50° F. The yearly rainfall varies from 30 inches on parts of the coast to 150 inches in the upland regions.

The Mascarene Archipelago was probably known to Arab navigators at an early date and was no doubt visited later by the Malays who colonized Madagascar in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Portuguese rediscovered it in 1507. They only used the island as a port of call for repairs and supplies, and let loose pigs, goats, deer, and monkeys. It seems probable that rats were introduced in this period as they were a serious pest to the succeeding Dutch colonists.

The Dutch took possession from 1598 and were employed chiefly in exploiting the ebony. They attempted to cultivate sugar-cane, but were frustrated by rats. Although they denuded the forests of ebony they later added to the economic resources of the island by introducing useful trees, plants, and cattle. Negroes were imported for labour, and, as escape into the forests was easy, bands of runaway slaves called Maroons were formed. The combination of the rats and this dangerous population of mixed, but mostly African, origin uncontrolled by any tribal or political system proved too much for the Dutch who abandoned the island in 1710.

The French annexed it in 1715, and by 1722 the population, apart from Maroons, amounted to 160 persons, soldiers, colonists, and slaves. Mahé de la Bourdonnais was chosen to develop the Colony and arrived in 1735. In order to make the island self-supporting, he introduced manioc and maize from Brazil and promoted the extension of agriculture by introducing products from all parts of the tropical world. He especially encouraged the cultivation of sugar. He substituted animal draught for carriage by slaves, and to ensure an adequate supply of labour he brought slaves from Africa. From an encampment of straw huts he built up Port Louis into a town of public buildings, private houses, stores, shops, and barracks. La Bourdonnais laid the foundations of modern Mauritius.

In 1755 large herds of cattle were brought in from Madagascar. Pierre Poivre, Intendant in 1767, established the cultivation of cloves and nutmegs.

In 1810, when Mauritius became British, the population had grown from 160 to about 80,000, of whom 65,000 were slaves. Sugar was then, as now, the principal product, and, when in 1825 the duty of ten shillings a hundredweight, levied on Mauritian sugar entering England to protect the West Indian sugar, was remitted, cane plantations immediately developed to a large extent, fresh land was put under cultivation, roads were opened, and steam power was applied to mills. From 18,000,000 pounds the output of sugar rose to 41,000,000 pounds in 1827, and increased annually afterwards.

On the abolition of slavery, 68,613 slaves were freed, and the colonists received £2,112,632 in compensation.

In 1842 Indian immigration at the rate of 6,000 a year was approved, and this resulted in an entire change of the balance of the population.

After a terrible outbreak of malaria in 1866 the wealthier inhabitants of Port Louis moved to higher parts of the island. As a result the country towns expanded considerably and the roads were improved and extended. The railway, begun in 1859, became very popular. One of the most striking features of the progress made has been the social and economic development of the Indians who to-day own and cultivate more than two-fifths of the whole area under sugar-cane. At the end of 1930 nearly half the investors in the Government Savings Bank were Indians, and out of a total of nearly Rs. 5,500,000 deposited there, over Rs. 2,300,000 belonged to Indians. Besides becoming gardeners and taxi-drivers, many Indians have taken to raising cows, goats, fruits, and vegetables, and the supply of these essential foodstuffs is almost entirely in the hands of Indians. The section of the population they have displaced centres more and more in the towns, forming the clerk and artisan class.

From 1902 to 1909 the island suffered from severe financial depression owing to the low price of sugar. Matters were aggravated in 1902 by an outbreak of surra which caused great havoc among the draught animals, and necessitated the introduction of mechanical transport.

A Royal Commission was appointed in 1909 to investigate the resources and administration of the island and reported in 1910.

About 1911 the destructive beetle *Phytalus Smithii* was discovered in the sugar-canes and at the present about four hundred millions of the insects are destroyed every year.

The great rise in the price of sugar which took place during and after the War brought prosperity, and both the Government and the general community were for a time far more prosperous than ever before.

As a result, a number of important schemes were inaugurated, including the amelioration of sanitary conditions, the improvement of the harbour, the extension and improvement of water-supplies both for domestic purposes and for irrigation, the improvement of the railways, and the extension of education.

Unfortunately, however, from 1921 onwards the price of sugar fell, and the greatly lessened revenues of the Colony had to provide for the carrying on of many works undertaken in better times. In 1929 the state of the sugar industry was so bad that Sir Francis Watts was appointed, at the Colony's request, to visit the island and to report on the economic situation. The Home Government was, however, unable to approve of his recommendation that a subsidy should be given to sugar beyond the preference granted on sugar imported into the United Kingdom, though a loan was made to the planters from local funds. Despite this loan, however, and an earlier loan granted in 1929, the condition of the sugar industry at the end of 1930 was extremely serious.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Government of Mauritius is vested in a Governor, with an Executive Council of four *ex-officio* members, and a Council of Government.

The Council of Government was first established in 1825. It consisted of the Governor and four officials.

The next year, the Constitution was amended, and a Council, including unofficial members, was introduced. This Constitution provided for a Council of Government composed of certain officers of the Crown and of an equal number of other persons to be taken from the chief landed population and principal merchants of the Colony; seven officials and seven unofficials were accordingly appointed.

In October, 1885, the Constitution was given its present form. The Council of Government is now composed of the Governor, eight *ex-officio* members, nine members nominated by the Governor, and ten members elected by the population: of the latter, two represent the town of Port Louis, the capital of the island, and the remaining eight the rural districts. At least one-third of the nominated members must be persons not holding any public office. Debates in the Council may be either in English or French.

The number of registered electors on 31st December, 1931, was 10,497. Every male person is entitled to be registered as a voter, who is qualified as follows:—

- (1) Has attained the age of 21 years;
- (2) Is under no legal incapacity, and is in possession of his civil rights;
- (3) Is a British subject by birth or naturalization;
- (4) Has resided in the Colony for three years at least previous to the date of registration, and possesses one of the following qualifications:—

(a) Is the owner of an immovable property of the annual value of Rs. 300;

(b) Is paying rent at the rate of at least Rs. 25 a month;

(c) Is the owner of movable property within the Colony of the value of at least Rs. 3,000;

(d) Is the husband of a wife, or the eldest son of a widow, possessing any one of the above qualifications;

(e) Is in receipt of a yearly salary of at least Rs. 600, or of a monthly salary of at least Rs. 50; and

(f) Is paying licence duty to the amount of at least Rs. 200 a year.

The ordinary duration of the sessions of the Council of Government is eight months, from May to December, and meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays or oftener when necessary. The life of a Council is five years.

The town of Port Louis is administered by a Municipality, an institution which dates as far back as 1790. It was then called "Municipalité du Canton de Port Louis" and was instituted, as were other local Municipalities by the "Assemblée Coloniale." These institutions are mentioned in the law of the constitution of the Ile de France promulgated by the "Assemblée Coloniale," on 21st April, 1791. Sixteen prominent men of the town acted as Councillors of the "Municipalité du Canton de Port Louis" and were denominated the "Conseil des Notables." The "Conseil des Notables" was dissolved in 1792. It was reconstituted at the end of the 18th century under the denomination of the "Conseil des Communes" and was abolished on 10th February, 1820.

The present Municipal Corporation dates from 1820, the first elections taking place at the Masonic Lodge "La Triple Esperance" from 21st to 23rd February. On 24th August, 1925, the Municipal Corporation celebrated the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

The administration of the other principal townships of the Colony, viz., Curepipe, Beau Bassin and Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes is vested in Boards of Commissioners appointed annually by the Governor. These Boards are empowered to take measures within the prescribed limit of the township for the making, maintenance, etc., of roads, sewers, bridges, canals, and other works of public utility; for the prevention of fires; and for the proper paving and lighting of the town etc., provided that no such arrangements contravene the existing sanitary rules and regulations made by the sanitary authorities.

In addition to the Township Boards, District Boards are appointed annually for each district. These Boards are empowered to pass regulations for the making, maintenance, and improvement of branch roads and footpaths, and for the levying of taxes.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population is divided for statistical purposes into the general population, i.e., Europeans and descendants of Europeans and people of African and mixed origin; the Indian population, i.e., Indian immigrants and their descendants; and the Chinese population, i.e., Chinese immigrants and their descendants. The Indian population is much the largest section.

The estimated total population of the island on 31st December, 1931, was 391,044 distributed as under, which shows a decrease of 2,279 on the figures of the census held on 26th April, 1931, viz. :—

General population	...	...	...	...	116,502
Indian population	...	...	...	...	265,796
Chinese population	...	...	...	...	8,746

The geographical distribution of the population is shown in the following table :—

<i>Districts.</i>	Census Population, 26th April, 1931.					Population on the 31st December, 1931.				
	<i>Area in square miles.</i>	<i>General population.</i>	<i>Indian population.</i>	<i>Chinese population.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>General population.</i>	<i>Indian population.</i>	<i>Chinese population.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
Port Louis...	16	25,556	24,603	4,276	54,435	25,749	24,398	4,143	54,290	
Pamplemousses ...	69	6,432	30,000	415	36,847	6,390	29,482	427	36,299	
Riviere du Rempart	57½	5,208	25,274	310	30,792	5,240	24,958	320	30,518	
Flacq ...	115	9,844	42,202	594	52,640	9,848	41,536	598	51,982	
Grand Port ...	101	11,868	36,135	616	48,619	11,878	35,498	631	48,007	
Savanne ...	93½	6,279	24,456	366	31,101	6,263	24,080	378	30,721	
Plaines Wilhems ...	78	40,282	53,392	1,669	95,343	40,845	43,490	1,557	95,892	
Moka ...	89	5,077	23,761	445	29,283	5,106	23,704	455	29,265	
Black River ...	101	5,205	8,826	232	14,263	5,183	8,650	237	14,070	
TOTAL ...	720	115,751	268,649	8,923	393,323	116,502	265,796	8,746	391,044	

The births during the year numbered 11,941 and the deaths 15,467. The birth-rate in the general population was 37.6, in the Indian population 27.1, and in the Chinese population 21.9 in a thousand. The death-rates per thousand in the three groups of the people for 1931 were 34.9, 41.7, and 18.0 respectively.

The highest death-rate for 1931 is shown in Black River, 47.2, and the lowest in Plaines Wilhems, 25.8, in a thousand.

The death-rate for the whole Colony was 39.1 and that for Port Louis 38.6 in a thousand.

The marriages during the year numbered 1,236 as compared with 1,277 in 1930. The marriage-rate of the population in 1931 was 3.1 in a thousand.

The number of deaths of infants under one year was 2,425 as against 2,527 in 1930; the deaths of infants representing 15.7 per cent. of the total number of deaths for the year. The infantile mortality rate was 203 per 1,000 births.

The arrivals in the Colony amounted to 3,662 in 1931 including discharged seamen, and the departures from the Colony numbered 4,452 including engaged seamen as compared with 3,918 and 3,461 respectively in 1930.

Note.—The birth and death-rates for 1931 cannot be compared with those of 1930 in the 1930 Report, as the rates for that year were calculated on a population over-estimated by about 10,000 with respect to the census population.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The medical and sanitary organization of the Colony is embodied in the Medical and Health Department. The Department administers three central hospitals, five district hospitals, a mental hospital, and a hospital for the care of lepers. The Department employs 27 whole-time Government Medical Officers of various grades with the necessary subordinate staff.

Each district of the Colony, with the exception of Black River which is near the large Civil Hospital, Port Louis and the Victoria Hospital, Quatre Bornes, is provided with a hospital for the care and treatment of the sick poor of the district. The District Medical Officer is a whole-time Government official in charge of the hospital and he is also the Poor Law Officer of the district. Supplementing the hospital, there is in each district a variable number of dispensaries in charge of resident dispensers which are visited at regular times by the Government Medical Officer for the purpose of holding consultations for those of the poorer classes who attend. The Government Medical Officer is also the public vaccinator of the district.

Hookworm disease, which is assuming great importance in the Colony on account of its seriously debilitating effects on agricultural labour, is treated by a special branch which was originally built up by the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation during their three-year period of co-operation with the Government of Mauritius in devising measures for the relief and control of hookworm infection. The Hookworm Branch treats some 30,000 patients annually, by systematic work district by district.

General sanitation is regulated by a code of elaborate sanitary enactments operated through a staff of Medical Officers trained in sanitation assisted by the appropriate subordinate officers.

No material change was made in the organization during the year. The death-rate (39.1 in a thousand) has again increased. This has been partly due to the carry-over from 1930, when conditions were bad, following the extensive flooding which took place. But in addition to this carry-over the cyclone of March was followed by a very unhealthy state of affairs. Owing to the long duration of the storm extensive floods occurred and places which would have escaped serious inundation in a cyclone of short duration were flooded on this occasion. A widespread outbreak of malaria was the result. In addition, malaria, and lung and intestinal diseases increased.

Steps were immediately taken to reinforce the officers in charge of medical relief in the districts. A number of private practitioners were engaged temporarily and provisionally for some months.

It is fortunate that the water-supplies were not damaged by this storm. The Port Louis chlorinators stayed at their posts and carried on the process without interruption.

The only satisfactory feature of the cyclone was the persistence of fine weather after the storm had passed. This enabled wrecked huts and houses to be rebuilt and general repairs effected. Ultimately the fine weather became detrimental as it prevented the damaged cane from making the recovery it might otherwise have made.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The housing of the wage-earning population of the Colony may be considered in three categories: (a) housing on estates, (b) housing in rural areas not estates, (c) housing in towns.

Estate labourers are adequately housed as a rule. They are accommodated in lines, or rows of huts constructed either of stone or of wattle and daub, with roofs of thatch or corrugated galvanized iron. Thatch is the more common. Adequate provision is made for the ventilation and lighting of these quarters, but ventilation and lighting appear generally to be disliked by the

occupants. At night, every accessible crevice is carefully closed, though the presence of ridge ventilation in many cases assures reasonable change of air in spite of the efforts of the occupants to exclude fresh air from their sleeping apartments. When the dwelling is thatched the problem of assuring adequate ventilation is difficult.

The lines must be kept clear of weeds, and all houses are required to have a clear space of at least ten feet round them.

Each camp has adequate latrine accommodation, and a supply of wholesome water is laid on, though in many cases the labourers prefer to use the polluted water of streams or nearby irrigation channels for their domestic purposes.

As a general rule, the lines are not lit at night. This is scarcely necessary as the occupants retire shortly after sunset.

The housing in rural areas not estates is fairly satisfactory. It is in the labouring class of the population that one can very often see racial difference in the choice of building materials. The negro will build an untidy-looking shack of old timber, scrap pieces of wood, petrol cases, and petrol tins hammered out flat, whereas the Indian will construct a very neat hut of wattle and clay or cowdung, on a stone plinth, furnished with a small verandah, and roofed with a compact thatch. The amenities of life are few. There is seldom water laid on to the premises. Unless the occupier has dug a well, he generally has to carry his water from the nearest standpipe which may be some five hundred yards away.

In the towns conditions are, as a rule, unsatisfactory. The chief features about the town housing are overcrowding and overbuilding: overcrowding is caused by poverty and overbuilding arises as a necessary consequence of overcrowding. Many, if not most, families of the labouring classes live in one room. Fortunately, children are seldom confined to the house on account of inclement weather and they can pass most of their time in the open air. Rickets is very uncommon in consequence, as are other consequences of overcrowding in places where the climatic conditions are more severe either on account of excessive cold or excessive light and heat.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Agricultural Conditions in 1931.

General.—An extraordinarily violent cyclone visited the island on 5th March, and continued, unabated, for three days; the damage to crops and buildings was considerable. The Imperial Government has now guaranteed a loan of £750,000 to the Colony repayable in 40 years. Of this amount a sum of £500,000 has been earmarked to sugar growers and the balance to the Government for public purposes.

Irrespective of the cyclone, the year was, from a meteorological point of view, a favourable one. Rainfall and temperature figures as recorded at the Department of Agriculture, Reduit, are given in the following table :

Month and Year.			Air Temperature. °C.	Departure from normal. °C.	Rainfall. m/m.	Departure from normal. Per cent.
1930.						
November	...	...	21.5	— 0.1	66.5	+ 26
December	...	...	23.3	0.0	162.8	+ 19
1931.						
January	...	...	24.4	+ 0.4	450.6	+ 70
February	...	...	24.3	+ 0.1	528.4	+ 91
March	...	...	24.1	+ 0.5	1,155.0(cyclone)	+ 250
April	...	...	23.3	+ 0.7	148.3	+ 34
May	...	...	20.8	+ 0.2	83.8	— 16
June	...	...	20.5	+ 1.9	60.1	— 32
July	...	...	19.0	+ 1.0	35.2	— 50
August	...	...	18.5	+ 0.6	42.0	— 21
September	...	...	19.5	+ 0.8	35.0	— 25
October	...	...	20.4	+ 0.6	20.8	— 59
November	...	...	22.2	+ 0.5	160.5	+ 214
December	...	...	23.7	+ 0.4	46.0	— 66

The damage done by the cyclone was heaviest in the central and southern localities of the island, and the average reduction in the sugar crop on this account was estimated at a minimum of 30 per cent. for the whole island.

The Sugar Industry.

Sugar Production.—The actual production of sugar for 1931 was 164,000 metric tons, distributed according to the various districts and compared with previous years as follows :—

Sugar Production in Thousand Metric Tons.

Districts.	1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.	1927.
Pamplemousses and Riviere du Rempart.	41.81	43.00	54.68	59.55	52.72
Faouq...	27.91	37.81	38.91	41.17	33.21
Moka	20.83	32.10	35.97	34.76	30.88
Plaines Wilhems	11.64	14.62	15.66	16.40	15.06
Black River	6.29	9.81	9.22	9.72	9.03
Savanne	27.01	37.09	36.41	41.41	35.88
Grand Port	28.52	46.53	47.18	50.42	41.22
Total	164.01	220.96	238.03	253.43	218.00

Factory Work.—The extraction of sugar per cent. of weight of cane harvested was, in 1931, 10.61 as compared with 10.92 in 1930.

The proportion of raw sugars was 85 per cent. of the total output; granulated whites (vesous) were 14 per cent. while low sugars were about 1 per cent.

Area under Cane.—Of the total cane harvested, 47 per cent. belonged to estates with mills, and the balance to estates without mills and to small planters. This balance is made up as follows:—Estates without mills, mostly non-Indian, in the proportion of about 23 per cent., and small planters, mostly Indian, in the proportion of 30 per cent.

At the end of 1931 the total area under sugar-cane approximated to 134,915 acres distributed as follows:—

	<i>Acres.</i>
Estates with mills	55,569
Estates without mills	39,416
Independent planting	39,930
Total ...	134,915

The proportion of cane lands cultivated by Indians entering into the above figures is as follows:—

	<i>Acres.</i>
Estates (with or without mills)	10,000
Small planters	52,826
Total ...	62,826

The majority of sugar estates are staffed by Europeans or persons of European descent. Staff employees on all estates number about a 1,000. Many of the day labourers employed in agriculture are themselves owners of small plots of land cultivated in canes; the number of these men is about 13,000 and the average holding per head about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The method whereby cane lands have passed, and are still passing, into the hands of the Indian peasants, is locally termed "morcellement" or parcelling-out system. A large estate subdivides a portion of its domain into a number of small holdings which are occupied by the Indian peasants; they cultivate their plots under the estate's control and often with the estate's financial help; but they are bound to sell their cane to the estate factory. After a certain term of years the plot of land is paid for and the occupier becomes the legal owner. This method has been extensively practised in Mauritius and has produced a considerable increase in the cultivated area of the Colony.

Disposal of the sugar.—As in previous years, the bulk of Mauritius sugar went to the United Kingdom; the local consumption amounts to about 8,000 tons annually. The sugar market in 1931 was the lowest on record for the past 50 years, the average net price obtained per 50 kilos of sugar being only Rs. 5.90.

Economic condition of the Industry.—As a result of the strained economic conditions very considerable reduction in expenditure on estates has been effected. In consequence the cost of production has been brought down to a low figure as compared with figures of former years.

Labour.—Expenditure on labour is one of the principal items which has undergone restriction. The total population of Mauritius according to the 1931 census was 393,238. Agricultural labourers number 72,000 of whom 14,730 are females. Of the male workers 53,154 belong to the Indian population, and of the female 14,229. Conditions of employment are reviewed in Chapter VIII.

Sugar machinery.—There were, in 1931, 42 sugar factories in operation. During the year, sugar machinery to the value of Rs. 399,124 was imported and tractor parts and ploughs to the value of Rs. 864. Mechanical cultivation is practised but not extensively owing, mainly, to the nature of the soil. In 1931 there were 90 farm tractors in use on estates.

Sugar-cane Research Station.—The Sugar-cane Research Station of the Department of Agriculture founded in 1930, was actively employed during 1931 in attacking the more pressing problems connected with the genetics and biochemistry of the sugar-cane in Mauritius, the most urgent problem in hand being the search for a new cane variety to replace the Big Tanna which is now failing after a period of 30 years' supremacy in the island.

Pests and diseases of the cane.—The major pest of the sugar-cane continues to be the beetle *Phytalus Smithii* Arrow. This insect now occurs over approximately 58,000 acres. The number of beetles captured during the 1930-31 season approximated to 324½ million or an increase of 59 million over the previous year's record. Expenditure incurred in awards for beetles captured was Rs. 66,252. It is intended to prosecute the campaign against this pest on more extensive lines in the near future, but a change in organization is in contemplation by which the work will be undertaken almost entirely by the planters under general supervision of the Department of Agriculture, the cost being borne by a special cess.

Minor Agricultural Industries.

Mauritius hemp.—This crop, which covers in all about 20,000 acres mostly in a wild state, suffered considerably from the cyclone. Furthermore, the market deteriorated to such a degree that only 455 tons were exported as against 1,464 in 1930, and 2,500 in 1929. During the year a spinning factory, for the manufacture of sugar bags from Mauritius hemp, commenced operations and it is hoped that this new venture will improve markedly the condition of the local fibre industry.

Tobacco.—Owing to the unsettled conditions in this industry, and in part to the cyclone, the area grown under this crop shrank to about 1,800 acres as against 3,600 last year.

A central grading warehouse, to act as intermediary between the grower and the manufacturer, has now been organized. By this means it is hoped to establish confidence in the grower and eventually to build up an export trade in well-graded leaf.

Tea.—The total production was 18,000 kilos as against 19,000 last year. Through the agency of the Empire Marketing Board and with their assistance, the Colony was visited in 1930 by an experienced representative of the tea industry in Ceylon who reported favourably on the suitability of conditions in certain parts of Mauritius for the growing of tea.

Coconuts.—This crop was seriously damaged by the cyclone. Most of the copra and the coconut oil exported from Mauritius is the produce of the "Oil Islands" (dependencies of Mauritius such as Agalega, St. Brandon, Diego Garcia, Peros Banhos, &c.). The total export of copra in 1931 was 2,069 tons, and of coconut oil 3,471 litres, as against 1,734 tons and 14,450 litres respectively in 1930.

Food crops.—The staple food of the Colony is rice, of which about 60,000 tons are imported annually, mostly from India.

Efforts are continually being made to encourage the production of a greater amount of food crops locally. In past years these efforts have been generally nullified by the incentive to cultivate the more remunerative sugar-cane, but with the falling prices for sugar, the Indian peasant has returned, to a certain extent, to food crops.

Hill rice occupies approximately 150 acres, and a rice mill was opened in Port Louis. Maize occupies about 1,300 acres and manioc 1,600 acres; vegetables 3,500 acres; potatoes, sweet potatoes, and ground nuts together cover about 500 acres; orchards, about 1,300 acres; bananas about 600 acres, and various other crops about 800 acres.

Fruit canning and preserving.—The factory of the Mauritius Pineapple Company was at work during the year but was handicapped in its operations by the lack of adequate supplies of raw material. The area under pineapple was estimated at 150 acres.

The "Granravien" canning factory extended its activities during the year producing a number of canned goods and preserves some of which have met with a considerable measure of appreciation abroad.

Alcohol.—Alcohol distilled from molasses amounted in 1930-31 to 618,172 litres as against 908,241 litres in 1929-30. The quantity issued for human consumption amounted to 522,181 litres, while

178,460 litres were issued for industrial purposes. 21,085 litres of rum were exported as against 30,857 in 1930. There were seven distilleries at work during the year.

Live Stock and Animal Produce.—The number of bullocks imported for slaughter, mostly from Madagascar, during the year was 4,574 valued at Rs. 299,651 c.i.f., as against 4,843 valued at Rs. 501,500 c.i.f. in 1930. Cattle on estates number 12,004, sheep 1,073, pigs 2,077, and goats 4,449.

About 20 tons of butter are produced locally each year as well as approximately 10 million litres of milk. Pen manure can be disposed of readily.

Other Manufacturing Industries.

There were in 1931 forty engineering establishments, employing in all about 400 persons. Bakeries numbered 65, employing about 300 persons. There were 34 lime kilns, using coral as raw material and giving employment to about 100 persons, and three salt-making establishments absorbing approximately 100 persons.

There are four docks (landing, &c.) supplying work for about 200 persons, and one match factory occupying 150 persons. Cigarette factories number nine. There are four hydro-electrical plants, for light and power, giving employment to about 400 people.

In addition, a number of less important industries are in existence, e.g., aerated water works, ice making, vinegar making, leather tanning, boot making, cabinet making, &c., but none of them have, as yet, succeeded in finding an export trade for their produce.

Fisheries.

The year 1931 will be remembered as a very bad one for the fisheries of Mauritius. The effects of the cyclone on the coast were disastrous—owing not so much to the millions of young or adult fish that were killed and thrown up on the shore as to the destruction of feeding grounds. Most of the lagoons were swept clean of all trace of certain seaweeds that are known to be the chief food of such fish as licornes, cordonniers, &c. Added to this the torrential rains caused such floods that in certain parts of the coast the lagoons became lakes of fresh water. This resulted in the death of millions of shell fish and crabs. Especially to be deplored is the wholesale destruction of a species of "puina" locally known as "hache d'arme." This shellfish is relished by the finest local fish, the "Gueule pavée," and was much used by basket-trap and line fishermen as bait. In the bay of Mahebourg there used to be vast stretches of sandy bottom closely packed with "hache d'armes" and now those same stretches of sand are still packed, but with dead, empty shells—millions of them.

After the cyclone the Government opened all the reserves to net fishing, but this order was recalled a fortnight later, as the object

of the measure, i.e., to provide cheap fish for the stricken population was not obtained, all the profit going to middlemen, fishmongers, &c., and the fish continuing to be sold at a high figure.

Since about the end of September, matters have improved somewhat owing to large shoals of fish visiting our lagoons. But marketing conditions have now changed. Through the general financial depression of the Colony the buying power of the public has decreased to a large extent. The Central Market in Port Louis has been packed with fish for some time, but the prices have been such that the fishermen, middlemen, etc., have profited little.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total value of the *foreign trade* (in merchandise) of the Colony in 1931 was Rs. 55,893,958.

Comparative figures for imports and exports for the last five years and 1913 are shown below :—

			<i>Imports.</i> <i>Rs. (1,000).</i>	<i>Exports.</i> <i>Rs. (1,000).</i>	<i>Total Trade.</i> <i>Rs. (1,000).</i>
1913	...	...	36,607	32,292	68,899
1927	...	...	55,185	56,613	111,798
1928	...	...	49,438	47,371	96,809
1929	...	...	46,428	52,450	98,878
1930	...	...	39,806	26,601	66,407
1931	...	...	32,064	23,830	55,894

Owing to the low price of sugar, the Colony is again faced with a heavy adverse trade balance. This however has not been so great as in 1930 owing to the curtailment in the amount of goods imported and to a reduction in their value.

The above figures for exports include re-exports, which amounted to Rs. 947,723 in 1931, compared with Rs. 941,670 in 1930 and Rs. 1,661,046 in 1929.

Bullion and Specie (not included in the foregoing figures) were imported or exported to the following amounts in the last three years :—

		<i>Imports.</i> <i>Bullion and Specie.</i> <i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Exports.</i> <i>Bullion and Specie.</i> <i>Rupees.</i>
1929	...	10,096	1,388
1930	...	1,165	4,500
1931	...	802	1,933,546

Imports of Merchandise.

The total value of the imports in 1931 amounted to Rs. 32,064,074, compared with Rs. 39,806,180 in 1930, and Rs. 46,428,424 in 1929.

	Quantity.			Value. Rs. (1,000).		
	1929.	1930.	1931.	1929.	1930.	1931
Rice (m. tons)	55,068	51,912	63,419	11,208	8,960	7,772
Other grain and flour (m. tons).	19,854	16,952	19,455	3,935	2,727	2,256
Provisions etc.	—	—	—	618	540	463
Manures and Fertilizers (m. tons).	18,397	16,653	12,836	2,847	2,549	1,667
Coal, Coke and Patent fuel (m. tons).	50,251	54,668	45,883	1,241	1,343	934
Petroleum products (hectol.)	140,808	88,054	98,125	3,566	1,787	1,625
Soap common (m. tons) ...	1,551	1,744	1,665	803	833	673
Cement (m. tons)	6,840	10,132	3,313	312	494	149
Cotton manufacture, piece- goods (1,000 met.).	10,920	7,628	7,639	2,861	2,329	1,853
Woollen manufacture, piece- goods (1,000 met.).	98	100	64	210	263	151
Wines in casks (hectol.) ...	10,921	6,716	4,407	533	324	207
Wines in cases (lit.)	100,576	97,766	48,305	165	147	79
Spirits (lit.)	48,695	30,994	19,025	171	128	87
Tobacco—All sorts (m. tons)	66	69	48	317	379	288
Motor cars, complete— (number.)	129	209	115	328	454	234
Motor lorries, complete— (number.)	104	82	59	242	173	116
Boots and shoes (not rubber) (pairs.)	128,181	93,134	124,624	308	246	212
Haberdashery and Millin- ery.	—	—	—	542	376	268
Iron and Steel	—	—	—	881	1,289	956
Silk goods	—	—	—	257	429	548
Drugs	—	—	—	408	351	420
Wearing apparel (except shoes.)	—	—	—	418	405	385
Rubber goods (including tyres.)	—	—	—	392	413	363
Machinery	—	—	—	1,090	1,116	905

The financial position of the Colony is reflected in the above figures. Imports of rice and flour have not decreased in quantity, but this can be attributed to the marked fall in prices that occurred during the year.

On the other hand, the importation of manures and fertilizers fell by 33 per cent. and petroleum products by a similar amount. Luxury imports such as wines and spirits decreased by over 50 per cent. The only increase among non-essential imports occurred in the case of silk manufactures, and this was due to importations from Japan and China of extraordinarily cheap goods.

Exports of Merchandise.

The total value of the exports in 1931 amounted to Rs. 23,829,884 compared with Rs. 26,600,964 in 1930, and Rs. 52,449,676 in 1929.

The following table shows the sugar exports for the last three years and in 1913 :—

					<i>Metric tons.</i>	<i>Value in Rupees.</i>
1913	...	...	...	...	187,772	30,700,697
1929	...	...	...	...	277,836	49,407,725
1930	...	...	...	...	185,539	24,846,253
1931	...	...	...	...	178,808	22,229,991

The principal other exports, for the last three years, were as follows :—

	<i>Quantity.</i>			<i>Value (Rupees 1,000).</i>		
	<i>1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>	<i>1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
Aloe fibre (m. Tons) (Mauritius Hemp).	2,459	1,469	455	828	348	92
Copra or Poonac (m. Tons).	1,391	1,734	2,559	281	280	395

Distribution of Trade.

The percentage of trade distribution for the last three years and in 1913 was as follows :—

<i>Imports.</i>				
	<i>1913.</i>	<i>1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
United Kingdom	33·2	23·8	25·1	23·5
Other parts of the British Empire ...	42·6	46·3	44·5	46·9
Foreign Countries	24·2	29·9	30·4	29·6
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

<i>Exports.</i>				
United Kingdom	18·5	87·6	71·5	77·6
Other parts of the British Empire ...	77·0	8·8	24·7	18·8
Foreign Countries	4·5	3·6	3·8	3·6
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

<i>Total Trade.</i>				
United Kingdom	26·3	57·6	43·9	47·6
Other parts of the British Empire ...	58·7	26·4	36·6	34·3
Foreign Countries	15·0	16·0	19·5	18·1
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

The principal countries from or to which the commodities come or go are indicated below :—

Imports.
Value in Rupees (1,000).

	1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.
United Kingdom	12,149	11,091	10,450	7,504
India	13,422	17,576	13,938	11,576
Australia	608	1,867	1,120	1,330
Union of South Africa	1,163	1,104	1,372	1,030
China	145	645	1,018	1,219
France	3,444	3,825	3,069	2,213
United States of America	863	3,319	1,819	1,369

Exports.
Value in Rupees (1,000).

United Kingdom... ..	5,955	45,965	19,023	20,002
Canada	—	3,921	6,109	2,724
India	21,032	83	46	19

Course of Prices.

Mean prices (c.i.f. or f.o.b.) of the principal articles imported or exported are shown below, for the last two years :—

Imports (c.i.f.).

	1930.	1931.
	<i>c.</i>	<i>c.</i>
Rice, per kilo	17	12
Dhall per kilo	18	13
Flour per kilo	16	11½
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
Bullocks per head (for food)	63	66
	<i>c.</i>	<i>c.</i>
Fertilizers (chemical) per kilo	17	13
Petrol spirits—per litre	21	16
Cotton piece-goods (ordinary) per metre	31	24
Soap, common, per kilo	47	40

Exports (f.o.b.).

	1930.	1931.
	<i>c.</i>	<i>c.</i>
Sugar, per kilo	13½	12½
Aloe fibre, per kilo	24	20

Changes in the Direction of Trade.

Imports.—Japan is displacing the United Kingdom as the principal exporter of “ cottons ” to Mauritius. Generally, trade with the Far East gained ground throughout the year.

Exports.—The great bulk of the sugar exports which, in pre-war years went to India, now goes to the United Kingdom.

Development of Empire Trade.

From time to time the Preferential Tariff of the Colony in favour of United Kingdom and Canadian goods is extended. Much larger quantities of tyres and tubes, silk, indigo, and motor cars are now imported from the Empire as a consequence of preference.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages and salaries have been reduced in 1931 owing to the difficulties created in all local industries by the low selling price of sugar. Male agricultural labourers under monthly contract receive, on the average, Rs. 10 per month in cash together with rations, free lodging, and medical attendance, equivalent in all, at the rates current in 1931, to Rs. 22 per month. Male day labourers receive Rs. 0.70 to Rs. 0.75 per day, but during harvest time they can make double that amount. Female labourers, whether working by month or by day, receive about half the wages of male workers.

The remuneration for piece-work in agriculture paid in 1931 was as follows :—

	<i>Per acre.</i>					
	<i>Rs.</i>					
Cleaning land	40-50
Digging cane holes	8-18
Manuring	15-16
Weeding	5- 7
Cutting cane (20 tons per acre)	10-12

Industrial day workers, artisans, etc., are paid on the average Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2.00 per day. Those employed by the month (fitters, mechanics, carpenters, joiners, masons, smiths, etc.), receive Rs. 40 to Rs. 80 according to circumstances.

The number of persons employed in agriculture, whether by month or by day, was 72,027 (1931 census figures), in various manufacturing industries 15,085 and in building 2,438.

As regards domestic service, wages vary from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per month for a butler or a cook. Chauffeurs get Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per month, maids and "chokras" Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per month. The number of persons engaged in domestic service was 14,913 (1931 census).

The number of hours worked without overtime is, for labourers in Government employment, generally 48 hours per week; for agricultural labourers 40 to 48 according to tasks; for industrial workers generally 48.

Salaries paid in 1931 for senior officers are given in the following table :—

Rs.
Per annum.

Managers of sugar estates	}	10,000 to 15,000
Senior Government officials		
Government, banks, and commercial clerks (higher grade)		5,000 to 9,000
Clerks and employees on sugar estates		2,000 to 4,000
Junior clerks and employees		1,000 to 2,000

During the year, the cost of living continued on the downward trend until August, after which a rise was in evidence.

Rice, the staple food of the population, decreased to index 77 (the index for 1914 was 100) in the third quarter of the year but ascended to 86 in the last. Dhall was at 86 in the third quarter and at 92 in the last. Lentils and beans decreased from 95 and 90 respectively in the first quarter to 82 and 80 in the last. Flour, which had dropped to 61 in the third quarter, rose to 72 in the last. Oils rose from 72 in the first quarter to 110 in the last; lard decreased from 148 in the first quarter to 66 in the last. Tea and coffee, upon the whole, decreased, while salt beef and salt pork remained, on the average, about the same level.

Articles of clothing which, during the first three quarters had been stationary at about 154, rose to 174 during the last quarter.

The total cost of living for 1931 was indexed as follows :—

1st quarter	134.7
2nd quarter	127.0
3rd quarter	127.0
4th quarter	131.0

The mean for the year was 130.0 as compared with 150.3 in 1930.

The above figures refer especially to the labouring classes. The index numbers for the cost of living for the upper classes have not fallen to the same extent.

The purchasing power of labourers' wages, expressed in terms of rice (the staple food of the people), is set out in the following table, which portrays also this particular state of affairs since 1927 :—

Year.		Average daily wage of a male labourer.	Average price of the cheaper rice. per lb.	Purchasing power of the wages expressed in lb. of rice.
		Rs.	Rs.	lb.
1927	...	1.25	0.13	9½
1928	...	1.25	0.10	12½
1929	...	1.00	0.10	10
1930	...	0.80	0.09	9
1931	...	0.75	0.08	9

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Primary.—Primary education is not compulsory, but it is given free through Government and State-aided schools which are open to all children of the Colony. There are 128 primary schools altogether with a staff of 975 teachers, and the number of pupils on roll in 1931 was 36,691. State-aided schools are under the control of Managers, and the Government contribution includes the salaries of the teachers together with recurrent grants to meet part of the expenditure on maintenance of school buildings and furniture.

Children of not less than 5 years of age are admitted in a preparatory class and undergo a training before being promoted to the lowest form.

The curriculum of studies includes the teaching of English, French and arithmetic. In the higher classes elementary history and geography are taught and girls study needlework. Regular instruction is also given in physical drill, nature study, hygiene, and elementary principles of agriculture. Examinations, conducted by a staff of Inspectors, are held annually.

Fourteen apprenticeships are awarded annually to primary school pupils to encourage the study of needlework and handicrafts. Twenty-six Scholarships and Exhibitions tenable at the secondary schools managed by Government are awarded every year through competitive examinations to the best pupils attending primary schools.

Technical instruction was provided in three principal centres which have recently been closed on grounds of economy, and on the recommendation of the Financial Commission referred to in Chapter XVI. It is still provided on a moderate scale in a few aided primary schools.

There are now thirty gardens attached to the primary schools, and cultivated by the pupils themselves. These are regularly inspected by officers of the Agricultural Department who give advice as to proper cultivation.

Secondary.—There are two categories of secondary schools, viz. : (i) secondary aided schools, which are managed privately but are under Government control, and (ii) the Royal College and the Royal College School which are managed by Government.

(i) Aided secondary schools.—Government grants to secondary aided schools are assessed with reference to attendance and efficiency, as tested by inspection and examination, and not, as in the case of primary aided schools, with reference to maintenance and salary charges.

These schools provide not only for elementary education such as is given in primary schools but also for higher education leading up to the Cambridge School Certificate and the London Matriculation.

The curriculum of studies includes the teaching of English, French, mathematics, needlework (for girls), hygiene, history, and geography. In addition to these, drawing and music are taught on a more moderate scale.

These schools are visited periodically by the Chief Inspector of Schools, who examines the lower forms. The middle and higher forms are examined partly by local examiners and partly through examinations conducted by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge.

Working hours in both primary and secondary schools extend, as a general rule, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., no provision being made for evening classes.

(ii) The Royal College.—The Royal College, Curepipe, is a Government school for the higher education of boys up to the age of 20; affiliated to it is the Royal College School at Port Louis, where boys under the age of 18 are educated on the same lines. The staff of the Royal College consists of Rector, Senior Master, eleven Masters with degrees in Honours at British Universities, and eleven Assistant Masters locally appointed; and at the Royal College School, of Headmaster, two Masters, and eight Assistant Masters. Assistant Masters are encouraged to take the B.A. and B.Sc. Examinations of London University. The College has well-equipped chemical and physical laboratories; but almost as many pupils follow classical as scientific studies.

Admission to the College is conditional upon passing an entrance examination or winning either one of the twenty Annual Primary Schools Scholarships and Exhibitions, or a Secondary Schools Scholarship or Exhibition (one of each is awarded annually). The boys are drawn from all classes and races in the Colony, and range in age from ten to twenty years.

About ten College Scholarships and Exhibitions are awarded annually to College pupils and also a Classical and a Modern Scholarship of the present value of £1,300 (with first-class passage to and from England) tenable for four or five years at a British University or any other approved place of education in the United Kingdom.

Besides the winners of these scholarships, a few boys whose parents can afford it go to England or France to study a profession, usually Medicine or Law, and almost always return to Mauritius to practice. Of the remaining pupils the majority on leaving the College find employment in the island.

The boys receive a training in classical and scientific subjects; specialization begins at the entrance class; and the division into modern and classical sides becomes complete in the Senior Cambridge Class.

In addition to the standard secondary education there are additional classes in drawing, shorthand, and book-keeping and extension classes where candidates for Pharmaceutical Diplomas and other public science examinations are helped in their studies.

The number of pupils on the roll of the Royal College in January, 1931, was 356, and of the School, 167. The average attendance at the College was 305 and at the School, 150.

Encouragement is given to athletics, rugby and association football, hockey, boxing, and physical training and gymnastics, in which, although by no means all the boys join, the standard of proficiency is high.

Welfare Institutions.

There are five Roman Catholic infirmaries for men and women and two orphanages for children under the management of Sisters of Mercy, also an orphanage for boys and one for girls under the control and management of the Church of England, and one "home" for men and women under the management of the Church of Scotland. These institutions receive from the Government a maintenance fee for each pauper maintained therein.

Outdoor assistance to paupers is granted by the Poor Law Department.

Several private religious societies for the distribution of assistance in food and medical care are also in existence. The "Société Française d'Assistance" assist chiefly destitute French people.

The Child Welfare Committee and the "Oeuvre de la Goutte de lait," two philanthropic institutions, deal especially with expectant or nursing mothers and their babies.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance provides for the grant of a compensation by the employer to workmen who may be injured in the course of their work.

Recreation, Music, Art, and Drama.

Association football is the most popular form of sport, and there is a stadium at Curepipe, a second at Cassis, on the outskirts of Port Louis, and a third at Rose Hill. Golf, tennis, cricket, hockey, and Rugby football are played mostly by the better classes. The Mauritius Turf Club and the Mauritius Jockey Club hold race meetings from June to September at Champ de Mars, Port Louis, and Mangalkhan; and regattas are held by the yacht clubs at Mahebourg and Tombeau Bay. "La Chasse," or the shooting of driven deer can be said to be the national sport of Mauritius. The season is from June to the beginning of September.

There are several flourishing companies of Girl Guides and Brownies; the latter are known locally as Blue Birds. The Boy Scouts have not been so successful as the Girl Guides, but efforts are being made to encourage the movement.

There is not much encouragement for any of the arts. Music is fostered by the Parish Churches, whose amateur singers will frequently give concerts. Besides Church organists the Christian Brothers are almost alone in providing musical training.

The Municipality of Port Louis has instituted a drawing class, practically the only encouragement to local talent. The Institute has a collection of pictures presented by Mr. Rochecouste, but there is no other art gallery.

As for drama, there are occasional performances given by amateurs, but no permanent society has been formed. In better times the Municipality of Port Louis subsidizes a theatrical company from France which plays in the theatre at Port Louis. The Chinese have their own theatre in the town to which companies come from China when conditions are more prosperous.

There exists a "Royal Society of Arts and Sciences" which was founded in 1829 under the title of "Société d'Histoire Naturelle" and was granted a Royal Charter in 1846. It interests itself in most branches of science and arts especially those relating to questions of agriculture and the national history of the Colony. The Society was incorporated with the Mauritius Institute in 1906 and its library is being transferred to the Institute library.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Colony is well served with 494 miles of first-class roads called "main roads" and 188 miles of second-class roads, called "branch roads" which are maintained by the Public Works Department. This gives on the average about one mile of road per square mile of area. All roads are metalled and the surface of 137 miles of main roads has been coated with bitumen.

Heavy motor vehicles, with axle loads of not more than eight tons, are allowed on practically all the main roads. The freight cost of road motor transport in 1931 was Rs. 0.44 per ton mile for short distances not exceeding five miles. The passenger rate for motor omnibuses is about Rs. 0.02 per mile with a minimum charge of Rs. 0.05.

There were in use on the road in 1931 :—

- 1,578 private motor cars,
- 384 lorries,
- 289 motor taxis,
- 142 motor cycles,
- 141 motor omnibuses.

Railways.

The Mauritius Government Railways, which are of the British standard 4'6½" gauge, are 116.65 miles long (see map at the end of this Report). The North Line is 31 miles long, the Midland Line 35.30 miles long, the Moka-Flacq Line 23.20 miles long, the Black River Line 12.75 miles long, the Savanne Branch 10.90 miles long, and the Montagne Longue Line 3.50 miles long. The subsidiary Bois Cheri 2'6" gauge Light Railway is 15 miles long and acts as a feeder to the Savanne Branch in the transport of canes.

The whole of the Black River Line and a part of the Moka-Flacq Line, 8 miles in length, were closed to passenger traffic in 1929. In order to accommodate the public and test the experiment of feeding the Railway, passengers, in the areas served by these lines, were temporarily provided with a Road Bus Service, by contract with a local road transport company. This service was not a financial success and was terminated on 15th December, 1931. The revenues for the years 1929-30 and 1930-31 were as follows :—

		<i>Revenue</i> 1929-30.	<i>Revenue</i> 1930-31.	<i>Difference.</i>
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers ...	...	781,749	606,668	— 175,081
Parcels ...	...	98,084	73,393	— 24,691
General Goods ...	...	1,313,577	1,143,729	— 169,848
Miscellaneous...	...	70,389	60,987	— 9,402
Net Revenue	...	80,600	119,354	+ 38,754
Total ...		2,344,399	2,004,131	— 340,268
Goods Tonnage	...	409,830	354,611	— 55,219

Road competition continues to depreciate the passenger traffic, and any reduction in the sugar crop inevitably reduces the traffic receipts. Further, the general financial depression prevailing throughout the Colony has adversely affected the Railway revenue. Passenger fares were reduced in January 1930, in the hope of arresting the then very rapid fall of passenger receipts; some initial success attended this measure but an increase in the bus traffic and reduction of the road fares charged were beyond the resources of the Railway. Heavy cuts in Railway expenditure are in progress and a Bill for the regulation of all transport in the Colony is under consideration.

Comparative figures of working expenditure for the years 1929-30 and 1930-31 are given below :—

	1929-30.	1930-31.	<i>Difference.</i>
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Working expenditure	2,666,799	2,442,547	— 224,252
Net revenue expenditure	148,366	344,700	+ 196,334
Total ...	2,815,165	2,787,247	— 27,918

The excess of expenditure over revenue was Rs. 783,116.

Omnibuses.

The excellent system of roads connecting the various parts of the Colony has greatly facilitated the development of travelling by motorbuses, which now bring the remotest places of the island within easy and speedy access of Port Louis, and afford a cheap means of travelling. Rs. 0.15 is charged for the journey from Port Louis to Rose Hill (about 7 miles) and Rs. 0.25 from Port Louis to Curepipe (about 14 miles). At the end of 1931, there were in existence 141 motorbuses, and those on the road to and out of Port Louis carried an average of 3,500 persons a day.

Tramways.

Since the surra outbreak in 1901 which decimated the cattle of the island, a system of mechanical transport by tramways has been established on most sugar estates for the transport of canes from fields to factories and of sugar from factories to Railway stations, in addition to motor lorries. There are some 900 miles of tram line on estates and 7,150 wagons driven by 215 locomotives.

Posts and Telegraphs.

Mails from Europe are received by the Messageries Maritimes Company via Marseilles and the Suez Canal, and also by the Royal Mail Steamers to Cape Town and Durban and there transhipped to any steamer sailing for Mauritius. Mails can also be sent by air-route as far as Kisumu to catch the steamer at Mombasa.

The Messageries Maritimes Steamers call regularly every fortnight. Twenty-six of these vessels brought mails from Europe in 1931, and the average time taken was 39.6 days. Mails from India and the Far East for Mauritius are also transhipped on the Messageries Maritimes at Aden and Mombasa.

Twenty-eight ships carried European mails via Union of South Africa; the average time taken was 42.5 days.

Altogether the tale of the ships carrying mails to Mauritius was 209, and that of the ships carrying them away was 192.

The Dependencies of Mauritius consisting of Rodrigues and three groups of islands, viz. : (1) Diego Garcia and Peros Banhos, (2) Agalega, and (3) the six islands, also have a regular mail service from Mauritius. A steamer with mails leaves every two months for Rodrigues. Sailing vessels leave regularly every three months for the three groups of Oil Islands.

The total number of articles, other than parcels, which passed through the Post Office in 1931 was 3,339,882.

The number of parcels received from abroad was 22,155 of a value of Rs. 931,949. There came from the United Kingdom 4,456 ordinary parcels worth Rs. 164,511, and 1,942 cash-on-delivery parcels worth Rs. 84,135; from India 729 parcels worth Rs. 18,219, from France 10,391 parcels worth Rs. 478,319, and from other countries 4,637 parcels worth Rs. 186,765.

The number of parcels despatched abroad amounted to 3,132 for a value of Rs. 55,252.

Money Orders for £3,380 were issued on the United Kingdom and Europe, and Orders for Rs. 94,847 on India.

The length of telegraph lines open for traffic is 381 miles and the number of messages dealt with during the year was 89,345.

Telegraphic communication with the world outside is kept up by the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company, but there is also the Rose Belle Wireless Station which maintains a twenty-four hour service, and works mainly with ships at sea and with Reunion Island.

The station was built in 1915 by the British Admiralty for communicating with ships at sea, and also for communicating with the various Naval Wireless Stations in the Indian Ocean, but since June, 1923, it has been under the control of the Mauritius Government.

During the cyclone season, from November to April, a daily weather report is broadcasted to all ships and stations in the vicinity.

The normal transmitting range of the station is 500 miles by day and 1,000 miles by night; these ranges are, however, considerably exceeded during the non-cyclonic season.

The receiving range of the station is world wide, and is limited only by atmospheric storms which are at their worst during the cyclonic season.

Messages are accepted at any Post Office in the Colony for transmission to any ship within transmission range of the station.

The public telephone system belongs to the Oriental Telephone Company. There were 700 subscribers at the end of the year, two less than the year before.

The Government owns a Departmental telephone system, the total length of which is 150 miles. It is joined up with the Company's system.

Shipping.

The following statement shows the arrivals and tonnage of ships at Port Louis, apart from the coasting vessels, during the past three years :

						<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>
1929	...	...	...	...	...	194	542,314
1930	...	...	...	...	...	179	496,245
1931	...	...	...	...	...	187	537,760

There were 18 arrivals of sailing vessels from the Dependencies.

The only regular lines of passenger steamers that call at Mauritius are the Messageries Maritimes Line (to and from Marseilles) and the Royal Packet Navigation Company of Batavia which inaugurated a monthly service between Java and South Africa via Mauritius during the year. Vessels of the Clan Line call about once a month and there are occasional arrivals of Union-Castle Line and British India Line cargo boats.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are in the Colony three private banks, viz. :—

- (a) The Mauritius Commercial Bank,
- (b) The Mercantile Bank of India, and
- (c) The Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas).

The Mauritius Commercial Bank was established in 1838. The paid up capital of the Bank is Rs. 2,000,000 made up of 10,000 shares of Rs. 200 each. The total amount of deposits on 31st December, 1931, was Rs. 6,979,337.

The Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, took over the business of the Bank of Mauritius, Limited, on 3rd May, 1916. The total paid up capital is £1,050,000. The deposits made locally on 31st December, 1931, amounted to Rs. 2,642,490.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) has a paid up capital of £4,975,500. The total deposits of the local Bank on 31st December, 1931, amounted to Rs. 2,630,804. This Bank, which is affiliated with Barclays Bank, Limited, was founded in 1925 and represents the amalgamation of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Limited, the Colonial Bank (incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836), and the National Bank of South Africa, Limited. A branch of the last named Bank was established in Mauritius in December, 1919. In February, 1926, its business was taken over by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) following the amalgamation already mentioned. This Bank conducts a Savings Bank department and also pays interest on fixed deposits as well as conducting a short-term deposit business.

Offices of the Government Savings Bank are established in the nine districts with a Head Office in Port Louis. The total number of depositors at 30th June, 1931, was 37,419 as against 37,168 in the preceding year with deposits amounting to Rs. 5,264,304.04 as against Rs. 5,393,790.70. The Saving Bank is largely made use of by the Indians, of whom on 30th June, 1931, there were 15,787 depositors with Rs. 2,022,042.60 to their credit as against 16,601 depositors with Rs. 2,313,378.71 to their credit on 30th June, 1930. Interest is paid at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

There are no agricultural and co-operative banks in the Colony but 28 Co-operative Credit Societies were in operation in the island on 31st December, 1931, with a total membership of 2,307, the total share capital originally contributed being Rs. 77,483.

Currency.

The currency of the island is based on the Indian Rupee. Apart from Indian silver coins the principal currency in circulation is provided by a Government issue of notes. The average value of currency notes in circulation during the year was Rs. 7,489,290 as compared with an average of Rs. 14,747,250 for the previous year. Against these notes the Commissioners of Currency held silver coins to the average value of Rs. 3,267,900, as compared with Rs. 4,862,000 in 1929-30:

Their investments on 1st July, 1929, amounted to Rs. 9,879,250 (which does not include Depreciation Fund). The figure remained unchanged during the year under review. The Depreciation Fund was increased from Rs. 1,700,189 to Rs. 1,791,334.64. From their investments the Currency Commissioners received interest which, after allowing for the increase in the Depreciation Fund, enabled Rs. 427,470.88 to be credited to the general revenue of the Colony.

The statement of assets and liabilities of the Commissioners of Currency shows a balance in their favour of Rs. 1,791,334.64 but if the investments are valued at the market rate of 30th June, 1931, the surplus will be decreased to Rs. 1,686,642.05.

Weights and Measures.

The metric system is in general use, but there are a number of English, French, and local measures also used, and as some of them will appear in this Report, it may be of use as well as of interest to mention them here.

Of French measures of length the *ligne française* is equal to 2.2558 millimetres or 0.0888 of an English inch. The French inch contains 12 *lignes* and the French foot twelve French inches. The French foot is equal to 1.0657653 English feet and is used by masons, carpenters, surveyors, and others.

The *lieue* is nearly equivalent to two and a-half English miles.

The *gaulette* is a measure of length equal to ten French feet. It is used on the estates as a measure of the work performed in the fields; a labourer is given a number of *gaulettes* as his task.

Forty thousand square French feet make one *arpent* which is equal to 1.0430263 acres; almost all land in Mauritius is measured by the *arpent*.

Other local measures of length and area are the *toise*, equal to two yards four inches or six French feet, and the *toise carree* (square *toise*) which is equal to thirty-six square French feet. This measure is used in masonry and similar jobs.

The *aune* is a measure of length used in most shops and is equal to about one yard and eleven inches.

English measures of length are generally used by Government, and road distances are measured in English miles. Places often derive their names from their distance from Port Louis or other important centres; thus there are places called "*Dixhuitieme Mille*," "*Seizieme Mille*" and so on. The kilometre is rarely used.

Of the local measures of capacity there is the *barrique* (equal to fifty gallons) which is used in sugar mills for measuring the amount of juice drawn from the cane.

The *tiercon* is a measure of capacity for molasses which varies from one hundred and ninety to one hundred and ninety-two litres.

The *celte* is a measure for oil, especially coconut oil, and is equal to 7.4505 litres.

The *bouteille* of eight hundred cubic centimetres is used in selling milk, vinegar, rum, and other like liquids. The half-bouteille is called *chopine*.

The weekly ration of rice of the labourer given on estates is called *gamelle*; it is equivalent to 5.250 kilogrammes.

The *livre* is equal to five hundred grammes or 1.10 English pounds.

The *corde* is employed for measuring stacks of firewood. The wood is stacked in lengths of two and a-half feet and laid cross-wise until the stack measures four French feet high and eight French feet long and contains eighty cubic French feet or 96.82 English cubic feet.

Besides local and French measures of capacity, English measures are also in use and, when speaking of agricultural and other products, it may be well to say that four bales of aloe fibre go to the metric ton, that a bag of sugar, unless otherwise specified, weighs 80 kilograms and that a "pocket" of sugar is generally 39½ kilos.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Administration.—The Public Works Department is under the control of the Director of Public Works and Surveys with two executive officers—the Deputy Director, and the Assistant Director.

The Department is composed of the following branches: building, drainage, roads and bridges, survey, water-supply, and irrigation.

The Mare aux Vacoas reservoir from which water is supplied to the district of Plaines Wilhems, part of Moka, Black River, and

Port Louis, is under the control of the Public Works Department. The water-supply of the remainder of the island is under the charge of District Boards.

Each branch has a staff of Inspectors, Overseers, &c., under the control of the Head of the branch.

Buildings.—The only construction work of any importance carried out during the year has been an Out-patient Department for the Civil Hospital, Port Louis, a building measuring 100 feet by 40 feet.

Much damage to the Government buildings was caused by the cyclone of March, 1931, and this necessitated a good deal of repair work.

Sewerage Works of Port Louis.—The sewerage works were begun in 1900. In 1922 the scheme was revised by Messrs. Mansergh and Sons and the works have been carried out on the lines of their report. The construction works being now practically completed, present activities are concentrated on house service connexions, and a large portion of the town of Port Louis now has the water carriage system.

Bridges.—As a result of the cyclone of March, 1931, and floods which accompanied it, several bridges were carried away. Two of these of 75 feet span were reconstructed during the year, the bridges having been ordered from the Crown Agents for the Colonies in accordance with their standard designs.

Old timber bridges are being gradually replaced by ferro-concrete structures, and one more bridge (three spans of 20 feet) has been added to the list of reconstructions during the year.

Water Works.—The water-supply of the town of Port Louis is obtained from the Grand River North West at a distance of about four miles from the town and at a level of 250 feet. This supply was under the charge of the Municipality of the town until 1922 when it was handed over to the Public Works and Surveys Department.

The dam in the river was burst by the flood of December, 1929, and much of the pipe line leading from it was also swept away. Water was pumped from Grand River North West to give Port Louis its normal supply during the dry season, while during the wet season the supply was obtained by gravitation from Moka River through the Pailles Canal.

The works of restoration of the dam and pipe line were begun in September, 1931, and will reach completion by the end of February, 1932.

The water is passed through sand filters and chlorinated.

The capacity of the mains leading to the filters is 5,000,000 gallons a day. The water is distributed to the town from two covered service reservoirs of a total capacity of 2,000,000 gallons.

The water-supply of the towns of Plaines Wilhems and of parts of Moka and Black River districts is obtained from a storage reservoir called the Mare aux Vacoas at an altitude of 1,825 feet. The capacity of the reservoir is now, after the raising of the dam, 1,641 million gallons.

The catchment ground is entirely protected by forest lands.

The whole of this water-supply is filtered through sand filters at "La Marie," about two miles below the reservoir whence the supply to the town of Curepipe is pumped by hydraulic power, the supply to the other towns being by gravity. The water is distributed from six covered service reservoirs situated in the various zones of supply, their aggregate capacity being 5,500,000 gallons.

The population served by this supply is approximately 90,000 and the average daily consumption 3,500,000 gallons.

The Mare aux Vacoas water-supply has been extended to the town of Port Louis. At present it is confined mostly to Government establishments, ships in harbour, and certain selected establishments, but the increase of the supply will be limited to 900,000 gallons per day. In this connexion a covered service reservoir at Petite Riviere of 750,000 gallons was completed during the year and put into operation.

The water-supply to the villages and hamlets in the other districts comes from twenty-seven different springs or streams. These supplies are not filtered but they are generally protected in their catchment areas by reserves of forest. The population depending on these various supplies is about 200,000 and belongs mostly to the poorer classes. A large proportion of the daily consumption is distributed by means of public fountains.

Irrigation Works.—Government storage irrigation works were begun in 1914 according to plans made by Mr. C. M. Harriott, C.S.I., C.I.E., M.I.C.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Central Provinces, India, and Consulting Engineer for Irrigation Works to the Government of Mauritius.

The La Ferme scheme for the irrigation of the south-west of the island, between Grand River North West and River Dragon, has been finished, and the Nicolière scheme, to irrigate land in the north, has been started. These two schemes cover a great deal of the fertile lands of the Colony which are below the level which enjoys 60 inches of rain and cannot be cultivated to the best advantage without irrigation water.

The La Ferme scheme is dependent on a low-level reservoir of 2,500 million gallons which was completed in 1918 and now irrigates 3,700 acres of land under sugar-cane plantation.

The plans for the Nicolière scheme include a high-level storage reservoir at 1,300 feet altitude at Midlands of 4,400 million gallons capacity meant to fill a low-level reservoir at Nicolière of a capacity of about 250 million gallons.

The Nicolière reservoir has been finished but although some land under cane cultivation is being irrigated from it, the full scheme will only be working when the Midlands reservoir is completed. Owing to financial conditions the plans were first curtailed and the works afterwards suspended as a result of the visit of the Financial Commission, but the feeder channel which measures $16\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Midlands to Nicolière was completed by the end of the year.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

Justice is administered in Mauritius by the Supreme Court which sits in the capital (Port Louis). It is presided over by the Chief Judge and there are two Puisne Judges. It has jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters and also as a Court of Admiralty : it also decides Appeals from the Supreme Court of Seychelles and the inferior Courts of Mauritius.

In the nine districts, there are Magistrates' Courts which have a limited civil and criminal jurisdiction ; the total number of Courts being eleven, two each for Port Louis and Flaines Wilhems, and one for each of the other districts.

In 1931, the Supreme Court dealt with 317 civil matters out of 401 which were brought before it, as against 334 out of 483 in the year before. Nineteen persons were brought before this Court on criminal charges and seventeen were convicted.

10,986 persons were tried in the Magistrates' Courts and by Benches of Magistrates. 841 were acquitted or discharged by the District Magistrates, 9,919 were convicted, and 23 committed to the Assizes. 30 were acquitted or discharged by the Stipendiary Magistrates and 173 were convicted. The number of persons fined was 7,628, and 869 were admitted to prison for non-payment of fines.

The Magistrates also held 222 Judicial Enquiries under the provisions of Ordinance 23 of 1888 as amended by Ordinance 25 of 1926.

Police.

Organization.—The Mauritius Police Force is mainly a civil force but all ranks are instructed to bear arms on enlistment and special detachments are given periodical training in platoon and Lewis Gun formations.

The officers of the Force are provided by appointment, transfer from other Police Forces, or by promotion from the ranks, and the rank and file are recruited locally and include natives of Mauritius, Rodrigues, India, and Seychelles.

Distribution.—The Force is divided into Headquarters Staff, Clerical Branch, Criminal Investigation Branch, Motor Traffic Branch, Training Depot, Harbour Police, District Police, Railway Police, Rodrigues Police, and Band.

The District Police are distributed throughout the nine Magisterial districts in fifty-five units or stations, varying as regards numbers of personnel, from one to thirty-five.

The Rodrigues and Railway Police are drawn from trained members of the general Police Force and are under the control of the Magistrate of Rodrigues and the General Manager of Railways respectively.

The Band is now maintained as a separate unit under Police control, with an establishment corresponding to the usual Military Band formation, and, with the exception of a European Bandmaster and some army-trained musicians from India, is made up of locally trained men and boys.

Crime.—The number of offences of every description reported to the Police during the year 1931, was 18,194, which shows a decrease on the figure for 1930—which was 18,932—and a decrease on the average figure for the past five years—which is 18,868.

A comparison with the figures for 1930 shows :—

(a) An increase in offences against the person—7,452 in 1931 and 7,267 in 1930 ;

(b) A decrease in offences against property—3,021 in 1931 and 3,716 in 1930.

In the above cases 8,016 persons were prosecuted ; 7,197 convicted ; 430 otherwise disposed of ; and 389 were pending trial at the end of the year.

Corresponding figures for the previous year were :—persons prosecuted 8,428 ; persons convicted 7,557 ; otherwise disposed of 525 ; pending trial 346.

All the above figures are the lowest on record and are very remarkable in view of the financial crisis through which the Colony is passing and the consequent unemployment, poverty, and unrest.

The efficiency of the Police Force has been fully maintained as regards the detection of crime, the percentage of undetected serious offences being much below the average, while the proportion of offences to population is also the lowest on record.

Prisons.

Organization.—The Prison Department consists of a Superintendent of Prisons (who is also Inspector-General of Police) with a staff of four European Chief Warders and Assistant Chief Warders, and 108 locally recruited subordinate officers.

Establishments.—There are two prisons in the Colony, Port Louis Central Prison and Beau Bassin Convict Prison, and an Industrial School for male juvenile offenders.

Port Louis Prison contains the offices of the Department, quarters for two Chief Warders, the female prison with accommodation for forty prisoners and two Wardresses, and the male prison with separate cells for 154 prisoners. All prisoners are received here for classification and disposal.

Beau Bassin Prison contains separate cells for 756 male prisoners, and quarters for the Superintendent and two Chief Warders are in the surrounding grounds.

Barkly Industrial School provides accommodation for 200 boys and there are quarters for the officer in charge and six subordinate officers in the grounds of the institution. Male juvenile offenders are sent here direct by the Police without passing through the Central Prison.

Classification.—Prisoners are classified as (a) penal servitude, (b) hard labour, (c) first-class misdemeanants, (d) second-class misdemeanants, and (e) juveniles and first offenders, and, so far as accommodation permits, the various classes are kept separate.

Classes (a) and (b) serve their sentences at Beau Bassin and the remainder at Port Louis.

Labour.—At Port Louis Prison the principal forms of labour for male prisoners are carpentry, stone-breaking, wood-cutting, carting prison supplies and stores, and cleaning Government buildings and grounds.

Women prisoners are employed on laundry work, and making and repairing uniforms and bedding.

Beau Bassin Prison contains the main workshops where long-sentence prisoners are trained as tailors, boot and mattress makers, mat, blind and brushmakers, carpenters and cabinet makers, blacksmiths, tinsmiths, and stonemasons.

There is also a bakery where bread is made for all Government hospitals, etc., and large gardens where all kinds of vegetables, etc., are cultivated and prisoners are taught the rudiments of agricultural methods.

Population.—The number of prisoners of all categories (i.e., sentenced and waiting trial) admitted during the year was 3,775, and the daily average population was 623.70.

The number of sentenced prisoners received from the Courts was 2,337 (2,223 men and 114 women) of whom 1,334 had received sentences of one month or less.

On 31st December, 1931, there were 677 persons in custody, of whom 654 were convicted, 640 being males and 14 females.

The above figures, which do not include the inmates of the Industrial School, are much in excess of the average figures for the past nine years, and corresponding figures for 1930 were as follows :—

Total committals	...	...	...	...	...	3,582
Total sentenced	...	...	...	...	...	2,105
In custody on 31st December, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	529

This increase is undoubtedly due to the difficult economic conditions now existing and a resulting inability to pay fines; as already stated 869 persons were admitted to prison for non-payment of fines.

Health.—Each establishment is visited daily by a Government Medical Officer and all sick prisoners are accommodated in well-organized prison hospitals.

Owing to an outbreak of dysentery at Beau Bassin Prison, which was responsible for 14 deaths, the number of prisoners who died in 1931 was 33 as compared with 22 for 1930. Apart from this epidemic the health of the prisoners was good.

Juvenile Offenders.—Any boy below the age of 16 years who is sentenced to imprisonment serves his sentence at Barkly Industrial School where the minimum period of detention is 12 months, or any boy may be detained until he attains the age of 18 years.

The school's principal aim is to teach the inmates agriculture or a useful trade, and for this purpose a staff of instructors is employed who teach gardening, carpentry, or tinsmith work according to the boys' history and capacity.

Teachers from the Schools Department give all boys the normal primary school education, and religious instruction is attended to by visiting Priests.

The discipline is strict as regards drill, punctuality, cleanliness, etc., but there is very little suggestion of penal methods in the rules of the institution as parents visit the boys frequently and week-end leave is often earned and granted.

The health of the boys has, as usual, been excellent, and their general conduct is remarkably good.

For the past few years the number of inmates has decreased steadily and at the end of 1931 the school population was 56, compared with 96 in 1925, when the original Reformatory and Industrial School were amalgamated. This reduction in numbers appears to be due principally to there being less juvenile vagrants in the streets than formerly, and no admissions of paupers, orphans, or "rescue" cases, as was formerly the practice.

The question of after-care presents some difficulty as it is not easy to obtain employment for the boys on discharge, but in the absence of unofficial voluntary workers to this end, the responsibility is accepted by the officers of the school with satisfactory results.

The percentage of reconvictions is slowly decreasing each year and compares favourably with similar figures for institutions of the Borstal type elsewhere.

Female juvenile offenders are usually accommodated in a Convent at Port Louis but there were no such fresh cases during the year.

Payment of fines by instalments.—Ordinance No. 29 of 1892 gives the power to any Court to direct that a fine or other pecuniary penalty or costs be paid by instalments, and execution of the judgment is accordingly stayed.

Ordinance No. 28 of 1896 limits the power given to Courts by Ordinance No. 29 of 1892 and lays down that the time to be fixed for payment by instalments shall in no case exceed six months (for sums above Rs.50) and shall be less than six months, according to the scale given in the Ordinance, for sums up to Rs. 50.

Ordinance 29 of 1892 enacts that the Court may, when granting time for payment of fine, etc., request that security be furnished.

If default be made in the payment of any instalment, execution may issue for the recovery of the instalments remaining due as if no order had been made for payment by instalments, and if security has been furnished the recognizance is estreated as laid down in article 136 of Ordinance No. 23 of 1888.

It might be added that Ordinance No. 72 of 1898 enacts that instead of forthwith issuing a warrant for the imprisonment of a person who fails to pay the fine imposed on or the costs decreed against him, a Magistrate may issue a warrant of execution against the goods and chattels of such person. If the execution against the goods and chattels proves fruitless the Magistrate can then issue a warrant for imprisonment in default of payment of fines and costs.

The Probation of Offenders Ordinance, No. 38 of 1898, as extended by Ordinance No. 39 of 1902, provides for the conditional or unconditional release of a first offender at the discretion of the Court before which he appears, when the trifling nature of the offence or the good character or the youth of the offender make leniency advisable.

In the course of 1931, 131 offenders were so released.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

A list of the Ordinances passed and the subsidiary legislation issued during the year under review, as well as an indication of the changes introduced, are given in Appendices I, II, and III, to this Report. Of the Ordinances passed in 1931, the following which are important and of interest not purely local may be mentioned specifically :—

Employment of Children.—No. 2 prohibits absolutely the employment in factories of children under the age of thirteen, and provides for the punishment by fine not only of a person so employing a child, but also of a parent or guardian directly or by neglect responsible for allowing a child to be so employed.

Hurricane Loan.—Nos. 10 and 16 provide for the raising of a loan of £750,000 guaranteed by the British Treasury and for the distribution in the Colony to meet the wants and necessities created by the hurricane of March, 1931, and No. 34 permits Treasury Bills to be issued in anticipation of the issue of the loan.

Workmen's Compensation.—No. 13 introduces in the Colony the principle of employers' liability for accidents in the course of workmen's employment. The Ordinance is based on English and South African statutes. The Mauritius Ordinance received the unreserved approval of the Secretary of State, and was circulated to other Colonies as a draft model.

Customs Tariff.—No. 23 raises the import duty on tobacco by Rs. 2.00 per kilo, on motor spirit by Rs. 2.00 per hectolitre, and on all other dutiable goods imported into the Colony by 10 per cent. The increase, however, does not apply to such articles as form the staple food of the population of the Colony.

Pensions.—No. 24 does away with the abatement of pensions on re-employment of pensioners in Government service, and provides also for the payment in full of all pensions under abatement at the date of coming into force of the Ordinance.

Arbitration Clauses.—No. 26 gives effect in this Colony to the protocol on Arbitration Clauses signed at Geneva on 24th September, 1923, and No. 27 to the Convention on the Execution of Foreign Awards on Arbitration as contemplated in the Convention signed at Geneva on 26th September, 1927.

Factory legislation and compensation for accidents are provided by Ordinances Nos. 2 and 13 of 1931 referred to above, while Poor Law Ordinance No. 17 of 1902 as amended by Ordinance No. 39 of 1913 provides for the relief of indigents or destitutes.

CHAPTER XV.

FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony for the financial year ended 30th June, 1931, amounted to Rs. 11,552,210.08, being Rs. 3,291,586.92 below the Estimates of 1930-31 and Rs. 2,931,257.81 below the revenue of the previous year.

The expenditure for the same period amounted to Rs. 16,092,073.89, being Rs. 862,613.89 above the Estimates for 1930-31 and Rs. 517,072.72 above the expenditure of the previous year. The expenditure included a sum of Rs. 971,630.20 for writing off depreciation on securities, an item for which allowance had not been made in previous years' accounts. Apart from this sum, the current expenditure of the year was Rs. 454,557.48 below that of 1929-30.

The expenditure incurred during the financial year exceeded the revenue by Rs. 4,539,863.81, which amount represents the deficit on the financial transactions of the Colony for 1930-31.

Of the expenditure for 1930-31 Rs. 5,032,366.84 were spent on "Personal Emoluments", and Rs. 11,059,707.05 on "Other Charges". The corresponding figures for 1929-30 were

The main heads of taxation, with their yield, for the current year, as compared with the preceding year, are the following :—

		Year 1930-31.	Year 1929-30.
		Rs.	Rs.
Customs	Import duties ...	3,822,385.11	4,112,684.81
	Export duties ...	54,503.71*	1,551,221.14
Excise duty on rum issued for home consumption ...		1,445,812.94	2,020,212.27
Licence duty ...		1,097,327.57	1,180,281.65
Tobacco Excise ...		429,959.86	369,297.53
Taxes on vehicles and animals ...		365,969.55	405,584.32
House tax ...		193,675.56	495,604.12

* Special export duty on sugar remitted.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION AND THE YIELD OF EACH.

Customs.

Import duty.

1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Rs. 3,506,622	Rs. 4,088,436	Rs. 4,136,008	Rs. 3,762,014

Export duty.

1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Rs. 570,948	Rs. 895,551	Rs. 220,584	Rs. 41,802

Customs Tariff (summarized).

The following shows the rates of duty of the principal imports and exports, as on 31st December, 1931.

Imports.

*Rice ... 63c per 100 kilos.	Wines in casks up to 14°. Rs. 20.00 per hectol.
*Dholl ... Rs. 1.14 " " "	Wines in cases (still) up to 14°. 30c per litre.
*Flour ... 94c " " "	Spirits (proof) ... Rs. 6.25 per litre.
Fertilizers ... 10c " " "	*Tobacco, manufactured. Rs. 11.50 kilo.
Coal ... 7c " " "	* " cigarettes Rs. 13.00 " "
Petroleum oil Rs. 4.80 per hectol.	Iron and steel (galvanized). Rs. 1.50 per 100 kilos.
*Petroleum spirits Rs. 14.00 " " "	Iron and steel (not galvanized) Rs. 1.00 per 100 kilos.
Soap, common Rs. 1.75 per 100 kilos.	Most manufactured articles. 12 per cent. a.v. (on an average).

* Note.—The above rates are increased by 10 per cent. except on articles marked.

Exports.

Sugar ... 2c per 100 kilos.	Aloe fibre. ... R. 1.00 per 1,000 kilos.
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Principal preferential rates on imports.

	<i>Preferential.</i>	<i>General.</i>
Motor Cars, Buses and Tubes ...	5 per cent. a.v.	33½ per cent. a.v.
Silk	12 " " "	20 " " "
Indigo	Rs. 1 per kilo.	Rs. 2.50 kilo.
Cement	20c per 100 kilos.	Rs. 0.60 per 100 kilos.
Cinema Films	Free	2½c per metre.
Machinery, industrial ...	Rs. 1.32 per 1,000 kilo.	5 per cent. a.v.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

The duty on rum for home consumption is Rs. 2.75 per litre of 23 degrees Cartier and an additional duty of 12 cents per litre for every degree above 23 degrees Cartier.

The duty on rum to be denatured for heating or lighting purposes is four cents per litre at 36 degrees Cartier and an additional duty of four cents per hectolitre or fraction thereof for every degree above 36 degrees Cartier.

The duty on rum to be denatured for industrial purposes is four cents per litre or fraction thereof at any degree Cartier.

The duty on alcohol for the preparation of medicinal tinctures or drugs is 10 cents per litre at any degree, but the duty on alcohol delivered for the preparation of "Alcoolats" in accordance with the formulæ of the *British Pharmacopoeia* or the *French Codex* or of any other tincture or drug to be notified in Gazette is Rs. 2.50 per litre at 23 degrees Cartier, with an additional duty of 10 cents per litre of every degree above 23 degrees.

The duty on vinegar is Rs. 1.70 per hectolitre on vinegar not exceeding 8 degrees of strength and an additional duty of 18 cents per degree and per hectolitre on all vinegar above 8 degrees.

According to the excise figures the number of litres of alcohol distilled in 1930-31 (July to June) was 618,172, as compared with an average of 761,626 litres for the past five years.

Three Government notifications affecting the revenue of the Colony were passed during the financial year 1930-31, viz. :—

No. 144 of 13th September, 1930, which provides for a yearly licence of R. 1—for hawkers or sellers of matches locally manufactured ;

No. 149 of 27th September, 1930, which provides for a half-yearly licence of Rs. 5—for sellers of leather locally prepared ; and

No. 179 of 25th October, 1930, which provides for a half-yearly licence of Rs. 200—for manufacturers of tobacco.

The Stamp Laws were amended and consolidated by the passing on 23rd November, 1926, of Ordinance 22 of 1926. This Ordinance was put into force on 23rd July, 1927, by Proclamation No. 32 of 1927.

Stamp duties are of three kinds :—

A duty in proportion to the size of the paper used ;

A fixed duty ; and

An *ad valorem* duty.

House Tax.

Rates.—(1) A flat-rate of one rupee per annum on every habitable room of any building assessed at Rs. 500, or less; the rate not to exceed Rs. 3; and

(2) 1 per cent. per annum on any building assessed over Rs. 500.

Yield.—The house tax is estimated to yield Rs. 365,488.85 for the year 1931.

Method of Assessment.—Any building liable to the house tax is assessed according to its full and fair value.

In assessing the full and fair value, the valuer takes into consideration the actual or possible rent a tenant may be reasonably expected to pay for such building. This applies only to buildings whose basic value is above Rs. 500 and on which the annual tax is 1 per cent. on the value.

Method of collection.—For the purpose of collecting the house tax when the assessment arrived at is final for the year, notices for payment are served upon owners of buildings and the tax is paid to the Cashier of the district in which it is levied.

CHAPTER XVI.**MISCELLANEOUS.**

The general elections of Members of the Legislative Council took place early in 1931. Five of the ten previous Members were returned. The Nominated Unofficial Members were renominated for a further term with the exception of the junior Member whose seat was vacated to allow of the appointment of a representative of the Hindu community, no Hindu having obtained a seat in the elections.

Before the new Council had met, however, the island was visited by one of the worst cyclones since the hurricane of 1892, and one of the Members' first duties was to vote funds for the relief of sufferers.

The cyclone of 5th-8th March is by far the most important event of the year under review; the casualties were happily small, but the damage to property and plantations was considerable; in some places the effects were devastating and the reduction in the output of sugar amounted to over 75,000 tons, i.e., more than one-third of the crop anticipated before the hurricane; the damage done was estimated at over Rs. 9,000,000.

For the immediate relief of the sufferers a sum of Rs. 20,000 was placed at the disposal of a "Relief Committee" by the Government; this was soon increased by £5,000 granted by the Imperial Government, 250,000 francs from the neighbouring French Colony of Madagascar, and about Rs. 25,000 raised by private subscriptions.

The cyclone destroyed many hopes of those interested in the sugar industry: prices were already very low and such a reduction in the output was disastrous.

The aloe fibre industry also suffered heavily: the aloe leaves were so damaged by the bad weather that the factories had to close for the major part of the year.

The Home Government consented to guarantee the issue of a loan of £750,000 to be raised in England, £500,000 of which was to be allocated for loans to planters and house owners secured by first mortgage on their property; the amount advanced in each case to be only in respect of damage caused by the hurricane. The balance of the loan was to be allocated for the repair of Government property and for public works. The loan was guaranteed on condition that an investigation should be made by a Financial Commission to be appointed by the Home Government with a view to devising measures to bring about a balanced budget at the earliest possible date. The legislation required both in England and locally was passed during the year, and the first payments were effected before the beginning of 1932.

The Financial Commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies were Sir Ivo Elliott, Bart., late of the Indian Civil Service, and Mr. N. G. Loughnane, C.B., of the Home Civil Service. The Commissioners left England on 9th July and landed in Mauritius on 23rd August. After a two months' stay during which they visited all the Government Departments, and the more important public institutions, and some private enterprises, the Commissioners left Mauritius on the 26th October reaching London on the 30th November. Their report had not been published at the close of 1931.

Early in the year His Excellency Sir W. Jackson inaugurated the new pineapple canning factory. This new enterprise will, it is hoped, prove to be a success and help to establish another subsidiary industry in Mauritius. The funds were partly supplied from the Improvement and Development Fund.

Another interesting event of the year was the visit of the German cruiser *Emden*. This cruiser, which was touring round the world, spent a week (18th-25th August) in Port Louis Harbour, and is the first German man-of-war to come to Mauritius since the war.

The island was also visited by H.M.S. *Effingham* and by the French sloop *Antares*. The latter called at Mauritius on her way to Madagascar from the Kerguelen Islands.

The *Effingham* flying the flag of Admiral Sir G. Fullerton stayed at Mauritius from 18th to 26th July when she left for Rodrigues with the Governor, the Officer Commanding the Troops, the Director, Medical and Health Department, and the Acting Director of Agriculture, returning on 3rd August.

W. H. INGRAMS,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

30th June, 1932.

APPENDIX I.

A TABLE OF THE TITLES OF THE ORDINANCES PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT OF MAURITIUS DURING THE YEAR 1931.

No.	Titles.
1.	To provide for the publication of a supplementary volume to the revised edition of the legislative enactments of the Colony.
2.	To prohibit the employment of children in factories.
3.	To amend the Military Contribution Ordinance, 1897.
4.	To amend the Merchant Shipping (Extension) Ordinance, 1910.
5.	To alter the titles of Forest Officers and to make consequential amendments to the laws and regulations affected thereby.
6.	To amend the Laws relating to Distilleries.
7.	To amend the Licences (Consolidating) Ordinance, 1915.
8.	To amend the Succession Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914.
9.	For applying a further sum not exceeding Rs. 702,804.45 to the service of the year 1929-30.
10.	To make provisions for loans not exceeding a total of £500,000 to planters and others to meet the wants and necessities created by the hurricane of the 5th to 8th March, 1931.
11.	To amend the Harbour Dues Ordinance, 1921.
12.	To authorize the Receiver of Registration Dues to refund to the Board of Commissioners for the town of Curepipe portions of the registration dues and all transcription duties levied on certain deeds of transfer already registered and transcribed.
13.	To provide for the payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment.
14.	To make provision for the public service for the financial year 1931-32.
15.	To amend the Cinematograph Ordinance, 1912.
16.	To provide for the raising of a loan for certain purposes.
17.	To amend the Customs Tariff (Consolidated) Ordinance, 1929.
18.	To amend the Mauritius Hurricane (Loan Appropriation) Ordinance, 1931.
19.	To validate a resolution passed by the Council of Government increasing the excise duty on tobacco.
20.	To make better provisions for the management of markets and slaughter houses in the town of Beau Bassin and Rose Hill.
21.	To make better provisions for the management of markets and slaughter houses in the town of Quatre Bornes.
22.	To amend the Curepipe (Markets and Slaughter Houses) Ordinance, 1913.
23.	To validate a resolution passed by the Council of Government increasing the Customs import duties on certain goods and to amend the Customs Tariff (Consolidated) Ordinance, 1929.
24.	To amend the Pension Laws.
25.	To remove doubts as to the validity and the date of the publication of certain Ordinances.
26.	To give effect to a Protocol on Arbitration Clauses signed on behalf of His Majesty at a meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations held on the twenty-fourth day of September, nineteen hundred and twenty-three.
27.	To give effect to a certain Convention on the execution of Arbitral Awards.
28.	To amend the Licences (Consolidating) Ordinance, 1915.
29.	To amend the Fisheries Ordinance, 1918.
30.	To make special provision in regard to the pension of Mrs. E. Berthelot, Nurse, Medical and Health Department.
31.	To make provision for the Mauritius Government Railways for the financial year 1931-2.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Titles.</i>
32.	To amend the Mauritius Jockey Club Incorporation Ordinance, 1930.
33.	To amend the Mauritius Hurricane (Appropriation) Ordinance, 1931, as amended by the Mauritius Hurricane Loan (Appropriation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
34.	To provide for the issue of Treasury Bills for certain purposes.
35.	To empower the Board of Commissioners for the town of Curepipe to raise a loan of Rs. 100,000.
36.	To provide for the protection of beneficial insects and to regulate their capture, removal, possession, sale, and distribution.
37.	To amend the Municipality Ordinance, 1903.
38.	To provide for the dissolution of the Society "Œuvre de Nazareth de l'Île Maurice" and for the transfer of all property, rights, and liabilities of the said Society to the "Société de Saint Vincent de Paul."
39.	To amend Ordinance No. 31 of 1890 (Church of Scotland Ordinance).
40.	To make better provision for the recovery of rent at Bell Village and for the eviction of tenants for non-payment thereof.
41.	To amend Ordinances No. 23 of 1887 and 32 of 1909 (Bankruptcy).
42.	To regulate the issue of accepted accounts.
43.	To amend the Mare-aux-Vacoas Works (Amendment) Ordinance, 1930.
44.	To constitute the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Mauritius and its Dependencies into a body corporate and to make provision for the ownership, vesting and management of any property it may now possess or may hereafter acquire in Mauritius and its Dependencies.
45.	To amend the Interest Ordinance, 1882.
46.	To amend the Tobacco Production and Marketing Ordinance, 1930.
47.	To amend the law regarding the Paper Currency.
48.	To amend the Stamps (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1926.

APPENDIX II.

ORDINANCES ETC. PASSED IN PRECEDING YEARS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)
 REPEALED OR AMENDED BY THE ORDINANCES OF 1931.

<i>Ordinances, etc. affected.</i>	<i>Subject matter or Short Title.</i>	<i>How affected.</i>	<i>Ordinances 1931.</i>
Code of Com- merce. Art. 11	Trade-books	Repealed as useless, being replaced in Ordinance 41 of 1931.	41, Art. 15
	Woods and Forests ...	The Woods and Forests Department constituted <i>de novo</i> as the Forest De- partment and all changes in titles and powers effected.	5 „ 2
18 of 1874 ...	Woods and Forests ...	Re-adjustments necessary under the new constitu- tion:	
„ ...	„ „ ...	Arts. 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41 repealed.	5 „ 21
„ ...	„ „ ...	Art. 42 amended ...	5 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 43 „ ...	5 „ 10
13 of 1875 ...	Woods and Forests ...	Art. 7 amended ...	5 „ 11
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 23 „ ...	5 „ 12
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 32 „ ...	5 „ 13
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 33 „ ...	5 „ 14
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 36 „ ...	5 „ 15
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 41 „ ...	5 „ 16
28 of 1876 ...	Paper currency	Art. 9 amended ...	47 „ 2
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 10 repealed ...	47 „ 3
10 of 1881 ...	Woods and Forests ...	Re-adjustments under the new Constitution:	
„ ...	„ „ ...	Art. 36 amended ...	5 „ 17
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 50 „ ...	5 „ 18
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 56 repealed ...	5 „ 21
35 of 1882 ...	Interest Ordinance ...	Legal rate under Article 3 lowered from 9 per cent. to 6 per cent.	45 „ 2
23 of 1887 ...	Bankruptcy	Art. 32 amended ...	41 „ 5
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 71 „ ...	41 „ 6
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 118 „ ...	41 „ 7
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 135 „ ...	41 „ 8
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 136 „ ...	41 „ 4
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ „ „ ...	41 „ 8
32 of 1888 ...	Boiler explosions (Acci- dents resulting).	Art. 16 repealed ...	13 „ 41
31 of 1890 ...	Church of Scotland ...	Art. 2 amended ...	38 „ 2
31 of 1895 ...	Beau Bassin and Rose Hill (Markets and Slaughter Houses).	Art. 7 amended ...	20 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „ ...	„ 8 „ ...	20 „ 7
32 of 1895 ...	Quatre Bornes (Markets and Slaughter Houses).	„ 7 „ ...	21 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „ ...	„ 8 „ ...	21 „ 7

<i>Ordinances, etc. affected.</i>	<i>Subject matter or Short Title.</i>	<i>How affected.</i>	<i>Ordinances 1931.</i>
8 of 1898 ...	Interpretation and Common Form.	Section E (Departmental Definitions) of Article 29 amended.	5, Art. 19
23 of 1903 ...	Control over Port Louis markets.	Powers of Municipal Corporation under Articles 72 (i) and (ii) enlarged.	37 „ 21
36 of 1904 ...	Distilleries ...	Art. 16 amended ...	6 „ 8
32 of 1909 ...	Bankruptcy ...	Art. 5 amended ...	41 „ 4
„ ...	„ ...	„ „ ...	41 „ 8
„ ...	„ ...	Power of Magistrate under Article 13 to be exercisable by an Inspector of Police.	41 „ 13
20 of 1910 ...	Merchant Shipping ...	Art. 2 extended to ships calling in for oil fuel, water, or store.	4 „ 2
17 of 1912 ...	Cinematograph ...	Power of control of Governor in Executive Council under Article 6 extended.	15 „ 20
44 of 1913 ...	Curepipe (Markets and Slaughter Houses).	Power of Board to make Regulations under Article 1 enlarged.	22 „ 2
„ ...	„ „ „	Art. 3 amended ...	22 „ 3
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 4 „ ...	22 „ 4
47 of 1914 ...	Succession duties ...	Art. 5 amended ...	8 „ 2
„ ...	„ „ ...	„ 6 extended to donations <i>inter vivos</i> .	8 „ 3
29 of 1915 ...	Beau Bassin and Rose Hill (Markets and Slaughter Houses).	Art. 5 repealed ...	20 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 6 „ ...	20 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 7 „ ...	20 „ 9
30 of 1915 ...	Quatre Bornes (Markets and Slaughter Houses.)	Art. 5 repealed ...	21 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 6 „ ...	21 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 7 „ ...	21 „ 9
32 of 1915 ...	Licences (of manufacturers of gold and silver wares.)	Powers of Police Inspectors under Article 86 extended to all Police Officers not below Sub-Inspectors.	7 „ 21
9 of 1918 ...	Fisheries ...	Weight of bait to be taken under Article 15 increased.	29 „ 2
„ ...	„ ...	Schedule B amended ...	29 „ 3
35 of 1921 ...	Harbour dues ...	Exemption under Article 1 extended.	11 „ 2
16 of 1922 ...	Liquor licences ...	Art. 16 repealed ...	28 „ 7
18 of 1922 ...	Distilleries ...	Art. 11 repealed ...	6 „ 18
31 of 1925 ...	Pensions ...	Art. 3 repealed ...	24 „ 2
22 of 1926 ...	Stamp duties ...	Duty on Policies of Insurance under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance to be levied under Article 14.	48 „ 2

<i>Ordinances, etc. affected.</i>	<i>Subject matter or Short Title.</i>	<i>How affected.</i>	<i>Ordinances 1931.</i>
31 of 1927 ...	Distilleries	Art. 3 amended	6, Art. 14
37 of 1927 ...	Aloe Fibre Factories (accidents in).	Art. 8 repealed	13 „ 41
46 of 1927 ...	Excise Duty on tobacco	Duty under Article 3 raised	19 „ 3
24 of 1929 ...	Customs Tariff	Schedule amended	17 „ 2
„ ...	„ „	Schedule amended to raise import duties on oils and tobacco.	23 „ 3
„ ...	„ „	All import duties raised by 10 per cent. except on certain articles.	23 „ 4
21 of 1930 ...	Registration duties	Art. 3 amended	8 „ 4
30 of 1930 ...	Mare - aux - Vacoas water-rates.	Art. 3 amended	43 „ 2
34 of 1930 ...	Customs Tariff	Art. 3 amended	17 „ 3
37 of 1930 ...	Mauritius Jockey Club	Art. 3 amended	32 „ 22
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 2 „	46 „ 19
38 of 1930 ...	Tobacco production and marketing.	Art. 3 amended	46 „ 3
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 7 „	46 „ 4
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 10 „	46 „ 5
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 11 „	46 „ 6
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 15 „	46 „ 7
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 16 „	46 „ 8
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 20 „	46 „ 9
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 26 „	46 „ 10
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 28 „	46 „ 11
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 30 „	46 „ 12
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 31 „	46 „ 13
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 32 „	46 „ 14
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 36 „	46 „ 15
„ ...	„ „ „	„ 38 „	46 „ 16

APPENDIX III.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION PASSED IN 1931.

A.—Proclamations, 1931.

No.

1. To grant a Charter of Incorporation to the "Soonee Muslim Jamaate" Society.
2. To grant a Charter of Incorporation to the "L'Aide Fraternelle" Society.
3. To fix the rate of exchange for the purpose of levying *ad valorem* Customs duty on imported goods.
4. To remit stamp duties and registration fees chargeable on instruments executed by or on behalf of "The Pont Praslin Co-operative Credit Society."
5. To grant a Charter of Incorporation to the "Shivopasak Sabha" Society.
6. To grant a Charter of Incorporation to the "Tamil Shanda Couna Nanda Shabay" Society.
7. To proclaim certain areas in the Colony to be infected or suspected to be infected with a plant disease.
8. To appoint a date for taking the census of 1931.
9. To authorize the General Electric Supply Company of Mauritius, Limited, to supply electricity within a certain area.
10. To authorize Mr. V. E. Desvaux to continue to supply electricity within the area defined in Proclamation No. 1 of 1910.
11. To declare all lands planted with tobacco to be infected or suspected of being infected with a plant disease (black shank disease).
12. To open the Council of Government.
13. To fix the rate of exchange for purposes of Customs duty.
14. To proclaim Monday 25th May, 1931, to be a Bank and Office Holiday.
15. To repeal article 2 (c) of Proclamation No. 11 of 1931.
16. To put into force The Distilleries (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
17. To authorize the "Marathies Prem Wardhak Mandali" Society to accept a donation.
18. To put into force the Mauritius Loan (Appropriation) Ordinance, 1931.
19. To proclaim the rate of the special export duty on the sugars of the 1931-32 crop.
20. To authorize the Brothers of Christian Schools Society to accept a donation.
21. To proclaim Latour Branch Road.
22. To authorize the Electric Generating Power (Mauritius) Company, Limited, to supply electricity within certain areas.
23. To put into force the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, 1931.
24. To fix the rate of exchange for the purpose of levying Customs duty.
25. To put into force the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
26. To authorize Mr. Pierre Mauvis to supply electricity within a certain area (Pamplemousses), and part of Port Louis.

B.—Government Notifications, 1931.

Advertisements;—exhibition of, outside the limits of the Municipality and of the Townships in the rural districts.
 Advertisements;—within the limits of the town of Curepipe.
 Advertisements;—within the limits of Beau Bassin and Rose Hill.
 Agricultural Chemists;—Registration and syllabus of examination.
 Ball valve bottles as containers of aerated waters;—Extension of the time limit within which the use thereof is authorized.
 Dangerous substances;—Storage of.
 Distilleries Ordinance, 1904, as subsequently amended;—Regulations made thereunder.

Education Code, 1917.—Regulations made Thereunder.

History of Mauritius added to the syllabus of studies for Teachers' Examinations.

Royal College;—Award of scholarship and exhibitions.

Staffing of primary schools.

Electric Lighting and Power Ordinance, 1902, as subsequently amended;—Regulations made thereunder.

Fisheries Ordinance, 1918;—Regulations made thereunder.

Hurricane Loan (Appropriation) Ordinance, 1931;—Regulations made thereunder.

Levying of fees for the posting up in streets of bills, advertisements, etc., in the Township of Curepipe, Quatre Bornes, Beau Bassin, and Rose Hill.

Licence to butcher (Rodrigues).

Licence to manufacturer of salt (Rodrigues).

Licence to seller and hawker of firewood (Rodrigues).

Liquor Ordinance, 1922, Regulations made thereunder.

Markets and Slaughter Houses fees, Curepipe.

Mental hospital;—Diet scale.

Motor Vehicles Ordinance, 1921;—Regulations made thereunder.

Pension Law No. 31 of 1881 as subsequently amended;—Addition of certain Colonies to Schedule D thereof.

Postal Regulations.

Air mail service.

Cash on delivery Parcel Post Service between France and Mauritius.

Insured boxes;—charges on.

Money Orders on Ceylon;—commission on.

Money Orders on India;—commission on.

Money Orders;—exchange of, with Hong Kong.

Parcels to France and French Colonies, etc., in transit through France;—rate of postage.

Parcels to the United Kingdom;—postage, registration, and insurance fees.

Postage fees on letters, post cards, etc.

Postage fees on parcels to Madagascar.

Postage fees on parcels to Mozambique.

Postage fees on parcels to Reunion.

Postage fees on parcels to the Union of South Africa, to Bechuanaland Protectorate, to Southern Rhodesia, and Northern Rhodesia through the Union of South Africa.

Radio telegrams to Reunion Island.

Radio telegrams to ships at sea;—Charges for the transmission of.

Rodrigues cattle, Shipping Regulations.

Rodrigues licences (Consolidating) Regulation, 1921, amended.

Slaughtering of cattle when allowed.

Supreme Court Rules.

Persons admitted to practise as Attorneys.

Tobacco Ordinance, 1927;—Proviso added to Regulations No. 150 of 30th September, 1930.

Wireless Operators;—Rules for the issue of certificates of proficiency to.

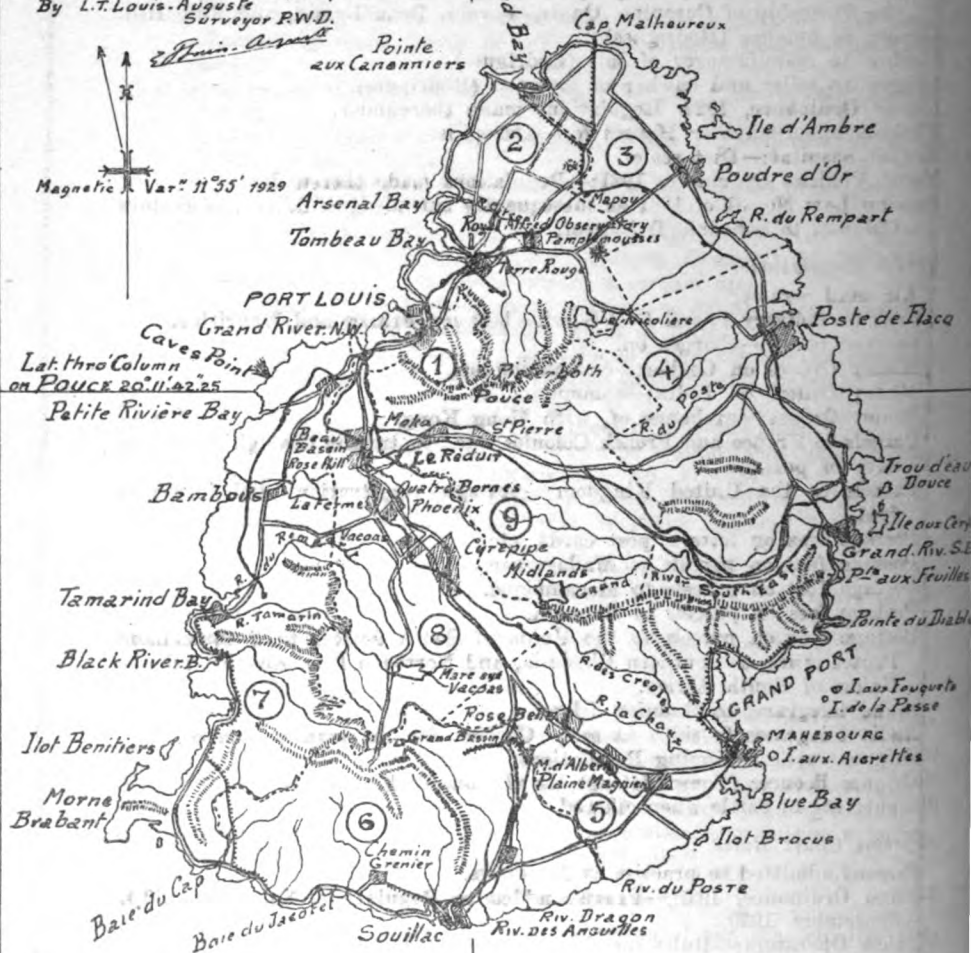
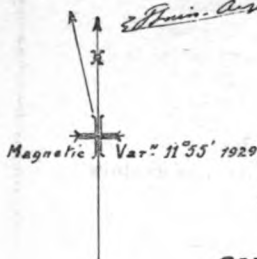
Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, 1931;—Regulations made thereunder.

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF MAURITIUS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Miles

Scale 8 Miles to the Inch

Reduced from the Military Map
By L.T. Louis-Auguste
Surveyor R.W.D.



DISTRICTS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1 Port Louis | 6 Savanne |
| 2 Pamplemousses | 7 Black River |
| 3 Riv. du Rempart | 8 P. Wilhems |
| 4 Flacq | 9 Moka |
| 5 Grand Port | |

REFERENCE

Existing Railways & Telegraphs
 Railway Stations
 Other Telegraph lines
 Narrow Gauge Light Railway
 Main Roads
 Light Houses



EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

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CEYLON.
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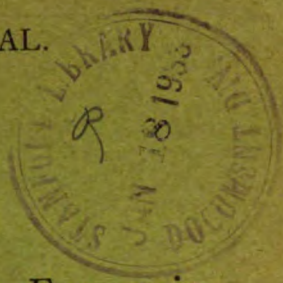
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Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0s. 9d.).

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Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3554.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

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Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).

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Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Colony of British Guiana, which, it is interesting to note, is the only British possession on the South American Continent, lies between the first and ninth degrees of North latitude and the fifty-seventh and sixty-first degrees of West longitude, and has a sea-board of roughly 270 miles, extending from near the mouth of the Orinoco River on the west to the Corentyne River on the east. The Colony is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south and south-west by Brazil, on the east by the Dutch colony of Surinam, and on the west by Venezuela, and is divided into the three counties of Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice. It has an area of approximately 90,000 square miles, of which only 198 square miles along the coast and up the rivers are cultivated, and only 4,178 square miles have been alienated under firm title.

The climate is a naturally healthy one for the tropics. On the coastal region there are two wet and two dry seasons in the year. The long wet season usually commences about the middle of April and lasts until the middle of August. This is followed by the long dry season, which extends to the middle of November. From the middle of November to the end of January there is a short wet season, while a short dry season follows from the beginning of February to the middle of April. In the forest region of the interior the usual contrast between the wet and dry seasons is less marked than on the coast. In the savannah region in the far interior the rainfall is less than that registered in either of the other two. The mean temperature in the shade ranges in the coastal regions from 79° F. to 82° F., the mean maximum registering from 83° F. to 87° F., and the mean minimum from 74·5° F. to 76·5° F. Fresh sea-breezes blow steadily, almost without intermission in the day time, during the greater part of the year. During the months of January, February, and March, they continue both day and night, and make life pleasant for the European. The general direction of the wind is north-east, east-north-east, or east. Occasionally, however, during the wet months of the year, a land-breeze is experienced from the south-east, south, or south-west, and with this wind the heaviest falls of rain occur. The wind varies from "gentle" to "fresh" and gales are exceedingly rare. During 1931 the mean shade temperature as recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown was 81·3° F., or 0·8° F. higher than that of the previous year, and 1·9° F. above that at the Penal Settlement, Mazaruni River. The absolute maximum was 90·0° F. and the absolute minimum 71° F. The total rainfall for the year was 69·26 inches. The mean rainfall in 1931 for the coastlands was 80·91 inches, as compared with 83·41 inches at the Penal Settlement, Mazaruni, and 98·19 inches at stations situated more than 15 miles from the coast.

The principal languages spoken in the Colony are English and different Indian languages.

The Colony was first partly settled between 1616 and 1621 by the Dutch West India Company, who erected a fort and depot at Fort Kyk-over-al in the present county of Essequibo. In 1624 a settlement was founded on the Berbice River by Van Peere, a Flushing merchant, under licence from the Company. The first English attempt at settlement was made by Captain Leigh on the O'apock River (now French Guiana) in 1604. The effort, though followed up by Robert Harcourt in 1613 and 1627, failed to establish a permanent settlement. Lord Willoughby, famous in the early history of Barbados, also turned his attention to Guiana and founded a settlement in Surinam in 1663, which was captured by the Dutch in 1667 and ceded to them at the Peace of Breda in exchange for New York. The Dutch retained their hold on the three colonies with more or less firmness, now yielding to England, now to France or Portugal, till 1796, when during the war of the French Revolution

they were captured by a British fleet sailing from Barbados. The territory was restored to the Dutch in 1802, but in the following year was retaken by Great Britain, and finally ceded to that Power in 1814.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Constitution, as it existed up to 1891, may be summed up very briefly. It consisted of a Governor, a Court of Policy, and a Combined Court. The functions of an Executive and Legislative Council and House of Assembly were performed by the Governor and Court of Policy, except as regards taxation and finance, which were dealt with by the Combined Court, composed of the Governor and Members of the Court of Policy together with six financial representatives. The laws of the Colony were enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, with the exception of the annual Tax and Customs Duties Ordinances which were enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Combined Court. Towards the end of the 18th century when British Guiana still belonged to the Dutch, there were two sets of taxes and two separate treasuries or chests—these taxes were:—the Capitation Tax, which, together with the import, produce, and tonnage dues, went into the Dutch West India Company's (now the King's) chest; and the Ongeld, an additional head tax, which belonged to the Colony chest. The abolition of slavery in 1834 rendered it necessary to alter the system of taxation to suit the new social conditions obtaining, and the King's taxes and the Colonial taxes were abolished and the ways and means necessary for carrying on the Government were raised by increasing the import duties. The two chests were merged into one—the revenue of the King's chest was surrendered to the Combined Court as a part of the ways and means in return for, and during the term of, a Civil List. In 1842, by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, it was declared that during continuation of the Civil List the King's chest should continue to be abolished. The Civil List has continued to be renewed from time to time as necessary.

During 1891 an Act of Parliament was passed, which came into force in 1892, effecting a considerable change in the Constitution. By this Act the administrative functions of the Court of Policy were transferred to an Executive Council, and the duties of the former became purely legislative. The Court of Policy then consisted of the Governor, seven official members, and eight elected members, and together with six financial representatives formed the Combined Court.

A Parliamentary Commission was appointed in October, 1926, "to consider and report on the economic condition of the Colony, the causes which have hitherto retarded and the measures which

could be taken to promote development, and any facts which they may consider to have a bearing on the above matters," and in their Report* they recommended that it was essential, both on the grounds of immediate financial exigencies and that of future development, that the existing Constitution should be altered so as to confer power upon the Governor to carry into effect measures which he and the Secretary of State for the Colonies consider essential for the well-being of the Colony. On their recommendation a local commission was appointed to advise on the precise nature of the constitutional modification required to secure such control, and generally upon any other improvements such as those suggested by the Commission which might be effected in the Constitution. As a result of these reports an Act to make provision for the government of the Colony of British Guiana was passed by Parliament in 1928, and by Proclamation issued by the Governor in Executive Council and published in the Official Gazette as provided by Article 3 of the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1928, the Court of Policy and Combined Court then subsisting were determined on 18th July, 1928, and a Legislative Council substituted therefor.

The Legislative Council as now constituted consists of the Governor, two *ex officio* members, eight nominated official members, five nominated unofficial members, and fourteen elected members.

In accordance with the provisions of the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1928, the first Legislative Council was dissolved two years after its constitution, and a general election was held in September, 1930. The Council is dissolved at the expiration of every five years if it has not been dissolved earlier. A general election must be held within two months of the date of dissolution.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor, two *ex officio* members, four nominated official members, two nominated unofficial members, and three elected members, all of whom are members of the Legislative Council.

Local Government.

There are two Municipalities—one in respect of the city of Georgetown in the county of Demerara, and one in respect of the town of New Amsterdam in the county of Berbice.

The city of Georgetown is governed by a Mayor and Town Council, and for administrative purposes is divided into nine wards for each of which a Councillor is elected. In addition to these elected Councillors there are three Councillors nominated by the Governor in Council. The revenue of the Council is derived from a tax on the appraised valuation of lands and houses within the municipal boundaries, and from market fees, water-rates, etc. A Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the hygiene of the city, a City

* Cmd. 2841.

Engineer for the roads, drainage works, etc. The area of the city is 1,612 acres. The revenue received from all sources during 1931 was \$869,677·34 or £181,182 15s. 7d., and the expenditure \$827,500·23 or £172,395 17s. 8½d.

The town of New Amsterdam is administered by a Mayor and Town Council. Six Councillors are elected by the ratepayers and three nominated by Government. The revenue is raised from sources similar to those of the city of Georgetown. The area of the town is 669 acres. The revenue received from all sources during 1931 was \$89,878·42 or £18,724 13s. 5d., and the expenditure \$96,392·89 or £20,081 17s. 0½d.

The Colony's rural population is resident in villages scattered along the coastlands and for some distance up the principal rivers. Here the freed negro slaves settled after emancipation. Forming themselves into companies, they bought with their savings, accumulated during slavery and the apprenticeship period, the estates of those of their former masters who were anxious to quit the Colony, or they purchased the front lands of plantations, the proprietors of which were eager to establish a resident population.

These rural communities range in importance from the hamlet with a population of 100 to the large village with 5,000 to 6,000 inhabitants. Several of these areas, it must be noted, while called villages are really potential towns from the point of view of both area and population.

The history of these village communities is a record, firstly of the unsuccessful efforts of the villagers, left to their own devices, to manage their affairs and later, of the endeavours of the Government to provide an efficient system of village organization.

Numerous legislative enactments aiming at providing and perfecting the machinery needed for efficient village administration have from time to time been passed.

The affairs of these rural districts, i.e., communities declared to be either "Village" or "Country" districts under the Local Government Ordinance, are under the immediate direction of Local Authorities. In the case of village districts the Village Council consists of elected and nominated Councillors; in the case of country districts membership is wholly nominated; nomination in both instances being made by the central authority—the Local Government Board. Both these Local Authorities have powers of voting funds and levying taxes, of appointing officers and constructing village works, etc. There are 23 village districts and 76 country districts.

The revenue received from all sources in respect of village districts was \$68,845·20 or £14,342 15s., and the amount expended on all works was \$69,480·06 or £14,475 0s. 3d. The revenue received from all sources in respect of country districts was \$87,696·37 or £18,270 1s. 6½d., and the amount expended on all works was \$90,961·15 or £18,950 4s. 9½d.

CHAPTER III. POPULATION.

Births.—The birth- and death-rates noted below have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of population of the Colony at 31st December, 1931, which was 313,619 or 156,779 males and 156,840 females enumerated as follows:—

<i>Races.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Persons.</i>
Europeans (other than Portuguese) ...	1,168	917	2,085
Europeans (Portuguese) ...	4,026	4,615	8,641
East Indians ...	70,327	61,592	131,919
Chinese ...	1,685	1,334	3,019
Aborigines ...	4,095	4,270	8,365
Blacks ...	59,311	65,527	124,838
Mixed ...	15,970	18,434	34,404
Other races and races not stated ...	197	151	348
Totals ...	156,779	156,840	313,619

9,853 births—4,994 boys and 4,859 girls—were registered during the year. In 1930 the number was 10,438, 5,246 boys and 5,192 girls. The birth-rate was 31·4 per 1,000 of the population; that for 1930 was 33·4, and for 1929, 31·7. The numbers and birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community were as follows:—

<i>Races.</i>	<i>Births.</i>	<i>Birth-rate per thousand.</i>
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	31	14·9
Europeans (Portuguese) ...	169	19·6
East Indians ...	4,978	37·7
Chinese ...	61	20·2
Aborigines ...	296	35·4
Blacks ...	3,137	25·1
Mixed races ...	1,180	34·3

Of the births registered 4,718 or 47·9 per cent. were legitimate, and 5,135 or 52·1 per cent. illegitimate.

Deaths.—The deaths registered were 6,848—3,599 males and 3,249 females. In the previous year the figures were 7,174—3,828 males and 3,346 females. The death-rate was 21·8 per 1,000 of the population. In 1930 it was 23·0 and in 1929, 23·5. The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of the various races was as follows:—

<i>Races</i>		
Europeans (other than Portuguese) ...	15·3	} 17·5
Europeans (Portuguese) ...	18·1	
East Indians ...	23·3	
Chinese ...	9·3	
Aborigines ...	34·5	
Blacks ...	21·5	
Mixed races ...	16·9	

Marriages.—997 marriages were registered. In 1930 there were 1,031. The marriage-rate per 1,000 of the population was 6·4 as against 6·6 in 1930.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of children who died under one year of age was 1,373 or 139 per 1,000 births in 1931, as compared with 1,529, or 146 per 1,000 in 1930. The following table shows the proportion of deaths of the children under one year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the past ten years in the whole Colony:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Whole Colony.</i>	<i>European.</i>	<i>Portuguese.</i>	<i>East Indian.</i>	<i>Chinese.</i>	<i>Black.</i>	<i>Mixed.</i>
1922 ...	186	40	114	194	141	205	126
1923 ...	177	56	205	179	77	136	186
1924 ...	165	44	163	163	171	172	146
1925 ...	155	—	102	168	115	160	123
1926 ...	159	51	123	132	59	191	163
1927 ...	158	—	104	153	26	163	139
1928 ...	185	—	154	209	63	177	137
1929 ...	146	—	116	136	62	169	123
1930 ...	146	100	44	155	70	150	114
1931 ...	139	—	95	140	66	146	129

The following table shows the infantile mortality in the city of Georgetown and the town of New Amsterdam for the past ten years:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Births.</i>	
	<i>Georgetown.</i>	<i>New Amsterdam.</i>
1922 ...	186	144
1923 ...	181	188
1924 ...	176	178
1925 ...	156	162
1926 ...	174	216
1927 ...	138	113
1928 ...	188	159
1929 ...	158	153
1930 ...	118	207
1931 ...	129	188

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

There are six public hospitals situated in different districts in the Colony, the largest being that in Georgetown which has accommodation for 564 in-patients. This hospital has up-to-date provision for bacteriological, X-ray, and electrical investigation and treatment; venereal diseases clinics are regularly conducted, and eye work is supervised by a Government Ophthalmologist. A special feature of this hospital is the Lady Thomson ward, probably one of the most modern and well equipped of paying patient wards in the West Indies.

The nursing staffs of the hospitals are supervised by European Divisional Sisters under a Nurse Superintendent resident in the Georgetown hospital.

In the country districts some fourteen Government Medical Officers serve the needs of the people, attend at estate hospitals, and engage in infant welfare work in the villages. Medical staffs supervise the Mental Hospital and Leper Hospital on the East Coast, Demerara, and also the Alms House in Georgetown.

The Government Public Health Department supervise the sanitary activities of Local Authorities in village and country areas, 26 Sanitary Inspectors being stationed in the different districts of the Colony.

Lectures both for the Local Certificate in Hygiene and Sanitation and for the examinations of the Royal Sanitary Institute are regularly held, and health propaganda is carried out.

The total number of deaths registered as directly due to malaria was 834 as against 1,004 in 1930, the death-rate being 2.7 as against 3.7 per 1,000 births in 1930. While this reduction may be satisfactory, there is appreciable variation in the figures from year to year. Malaria remains the chief disease of the Colony but the incidence is higher in country districts than in the town. The prevalent form of this disease along the coastlands of the Colony is the simple or benign tertian malaria, the malignant and sub-tertian form being more prevalent up the rivers and in remoter areas.

There was an increase in the number of notified cases of enteric fever, 250 cases being notified in 1931 as against 244 in 1930; the number of deaths being 52 and 53 respectively.

As an index of sanitary conditions prevailing in the Colony this may not be considered unsatisfactory. The majority of these cases and deaths occur in more or less localized areas in country districts. Enteric fever appears to have been reduced to an almost negligible incidence in the city of Georgetown.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified in 1931 was 382 as against 331 in 1930; the number of deaths being 287 and 302 respectively.

The British Guiana Society for the Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis has continued its activities throughout the year. These consist in the work of the Health Visitors who help to bring patients to the dispensary and to keep in touch with these patients in their homes by regular visits; dispensary work which is carried out by Honorary Visiting Physicians; and the treatment and care of early and convalescent cases at the Tuberculosis Hospital on the west bank of the Demerara River.

No quarantinable diseases (plague, cholera, yellow fever, typhus fever, or smallpox) occurred during the year. The last epidemic of any of these diseases occurred in 1904 (smallpox), while the last epidemic of any importance of yellow fever occurred as far back as

1881 ; cholera and plague have not been known to have occurred in the Colony.

A few cases only of chicken-pox, measles, mumps, and diphtheria occurred. As has been the case for many years there was no case of scarlet fever. No special outbreak of any epidemic disease was reported.

At the Public Hospital, Georgetown, a new out-patient department has been established, and also there have been erected new and separate admitting, casualty and hospital dispensing blocks. These new buildings have proved of considerable importance to the departments concerned, and the congestion which formerly existed when all these departments were housed in a single block has been eliminated.

An up-to-date, new, and well equipped maternity (ante-natal) and infant welfare centre and creche was erected in Georgetown. This building was completed during the year under review, and the work of the centre has been placed under the charge of a well qualified European Matron Superintendent.

Infant Welfare and Ante-natal Supervision.

During the latter half of the year a considerable impetus to this movement was given by a circular drawn up by the Surgeon-General and addressed to the managers of sugar estates. As a result, committees of the leading residents headed by the managers and their wives were formed and, with the active support of the Government Medical Officers in charge of the estates' hospitals, clinics for infants were started and propaganda begun amongst the labourers. Ante-natal clinics to take the place of the monthly examination of expectant mothers were also included in the scope of those committees, and on one large estate a Baby Show was held with an excellent attendance of infants up to two years of age. These clinics are usually held once a month, and two of these estates have appointed Health Visitors who pay house to house visits to the labourers' quarters and give advice and inculcate sanitary ideas to the labouring population.

The infant welfare work in the villages has been well maintained ever since the inception of the Infant Welfare and Maternity League about seventeen years ago. Influential committees of the leading villagers are at work and some of the members attend the clinics held fortnightly. In some of the larger villages the work of the clinics is considerably hampered by the want of suitable accommodation which is generally deficient. In most cases these are held in the offices of the local village council or one of the schoolrooms, sometimes during school hours.

A special report was submitted to Government on the instructions of His Excellency the Governor, following inspection of all

sugar estates of the Colony by the Surgeon-General and the Government Medical Officer of Health, on the subject of "Health, Sanitation, and Vital Statistics of Sugar Estates."

The empoldering and bonification of a large portion of the foreshore of the town of New Amsterdam in the county of Berbice was commenced during the latter half of the year. It is hoped that this work will appreciably reduce mosquito incidence as well as add considerable amenities to the town.

A new Public Health Bill consolidating and repealing older Ordinances and incorporating modern health and sanitary requirements has been drafted.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

For some time past the laws in relation to the laying out of land for building purposes have not been fully enforced. This has been a consequence of the complexity rather than the inadequacy of these laws and the difficulties have been met in the draft of the new Public Health Bill.

Owing to the scattered nature of the agricultural population, and the necessity for dwelling houses to be erected in the vicinity of cultivated areas, a somewhat haphazard building system has evolved which is now receiving close attention.

Enforcement of the building by-laws has been maintained, so far as is possible with the existing sanitary staff, throughout the populous districts of the Colony. These as a whole have been adequate but require modification in the light of varying conditions obtaining in village, rural, and estate areas.

In remoter areas along the coastland and isolated portions on the outskirts of village and country districts the simplest form of dwelling house is prevalent, consisting of "wattle and daub" troolie or trash roofed buildings of one or two roomed capacity. These dwellings are no longer permitted to be built flush with the ground as formerly, but otherwise, owing to the prevailing economic depression, little more is demanded.

In the villages throughout the coastlands a distinct improvement in the type of dwellings is noticeable; the average villager instead of being content with living in thatched cottages built of flimsy material, now aims at a shingle and board residence and, with the help and guidance of the Government Public Health Department, a proper means of disposal of excreta is provided and the compounds or "lots" occupied by these cottages are kept in a fair state of cleanliness.

In some parts of the coastland such as the east bank of the Demerara River, private initiative has erected a model settlement of attractive looking and neatly built cottages of a bungalow type and provided with suitable means of ingress and egress; these

model settlements for the artisan class are well provided with the amenities of life, being supplied with electric current from Georgetown—a distance of two miles—and a good service of motor omnibuses. The public road has been considerably improved for a distance of about four miles from Georgetown, thus encouraging the outward movement of people from the city and individual ownership of properties by the residents.

During the year under review a beginning was made on a large number of sugar estates in the erection of a number of two-and-one-family cottages built on pillars and affording a greater degree of comfort to the labouring population and encouraging proper sanitary regard for the laws of health. In some of the larger estates septic tanks have been erected in the immediate neighbourhood thus displacing the hitherto disposal of excreta by open trenches which in dry weather could not be sufficiently flushed out. These cottages were erected by loan funds provided by the Imperial Government and the money paid in wages to the unemployed artisans helped to a considerable extent to relieve the amount of distress among them.

In Georgetown the discomfort from mosquito infestation is comparatively small. Mosquito-proofed dwellings are practically non-existent as conducive to too great warmth. All the dwelling houses are raised on pillars to a varying distance of from four to twelve feet from the ground.

The activities of building societies are at present chiefly restricted to existing buildings.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Minng.

The mineral production of British Guiana is at present confined to gold, diamonds, and bauxite.

The records of gold production date back to 1884, and the aggregate amount produced from then to the end of 1931 was 2,699,664 ounces, valued at £9,849,082. With the exception of an aggregate of about 277,655 ounces won by organized enterprise by underground mining, dredging, and hydraulic, the whole of this was obtained by native miners using simple hand methods. There are no mines in existence at present and no hydraulic is being carried on, but a small amount of dredging is being done by a local concern. The highest production in any one year was 138,528 ounces in 1893, valued at £505,049, and the lowest 6,083 ounces valued at £22,633 in 1928. The output of gold has been adversely affected since 1915 by the attraction of local miners to the diamond industry; but the recent fall in the world's market price of diamonds has revived interest in gold and the output for

1931 rose to 11,093 ounces valued at £41,138—an increase of 4,159 ounces on the previous year.

Diamonds were first discovered in 1890, but though of first-rate quality, failed to obtain a good market until 1916 from which year production rose steadily to a peak output in 1923 of 214,474 carats valued at £1,033,014. Owing to the gradual decline in prices the production has steadily fallen to 61,840 carats in 1931 valued at only £105,257—an average of £1 14s. 0½d. a carat as compared to £5 0s. 10d. a carat in 1922. The aggregate production from 1901 to the end of 1931 was 1,838,067 carats valued at £7,362,033. Practically the whole output has been won from alluvial workings by local miners using simple hand methods; but of recent years concentrating pans, both hand and power driven, manufactured by a local firm of engineers have been increasingly used with considerable success.

Contingent on attractive finds being made, the diamond and gold industries provide congenial employment for an average of from five to ten thousand men. The actual miners are mostly of the negro race, as the open air life, freedom from restraint, and element of chance appeals to them, and they are better fitted physically to stand conditions in the interior. They depend practically entirely for supplies on shops established by traders in the various districts, and on the whole, food-stuffs, such as rice, flour, peas, salt-beef, salt-pork, salt-fish, etc., which form their staple diet, are sold at reasonable prices and fair values paid for the gold and diamonds. Drink and other luxuries are proportionately higher in cost.

Valuable and extensive deposits of bauxite of high grade exist in easily accessible localities. Mining operations on a large scale have been carried on in the Demerara River since 1914, where a plant and buildings costing approximately £1,000,000 have been erected by the Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited, a subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of Canada. The number of regular employees averages about 800, the actual labour force being almost entirely native and the whole staff 97 per cent. British. A well equipped hospital and dispensary—open to local residents as well as employees—is maintained and two resident Medical Officers employed. The labourers are housed under model conditions in mosquito-proofed dwellings and sanitary services of a high order are provided by the Company. Additional bauxite deposits in the same locality have been leased to the British and Colonial Bauxite Company of London—a Company formed and controlled by the British Aluminium Company and other British and Colonial manufacturing concerns of high standing, but mining operations have not yet commenced. Deposits have been located in several other localities but not yet taken up. The aggregate output to the end of 1931 was 1,451,679 tons, the output for that year being 127,473 tons. All the bauxite is exported to America and Canada after being washed and kiln dried, there being no local utilization.

Agriculture.

The sugar crop of the Colony for 1931 was 126,143 tons as compared with 127,764 tons in 1930. The local consumption for the year was 7,197 tons, the amount exported was returned at 119,346 tons valued at £1,109,532, shipments to the United Kingdom and Canada amounting to 38,862 tons and 79,774 tons respectively. The total acreage of sugar under cultivation in the Colony, as shown by the census returns, was 61,097 English acres. Of this amount 53,737 acres were cultivated on sugar estates, whilst the total acreage reaped throughout the Colony was 54,999 English acres, yielding 126,143 tons. The average yield of sugar is equivalent to 2.3 tons per acre.

There were under cultivation 73,647 acres of rice, of which 5,719 acres yielded both spring and autumn crops. The total yield of paddy was 78,428 tons, equivalent to about 47,056 tons of cleaned rice. The amount of rice exported during 1931 was 23,632 tons valued at £220,904 as compared with 22,480 tons with a value of £227,173 2s. 6d. for 1930. A regulated water-supply is essential to successful rice cultivation and where this is unobtainable owing to seasonal and other factors, yields and acreages are subject to considerable variation. Nevertheless, the industry continues to expand as a result of the extensive propaganda work undertaken by the Department of Agriculture. Indeed, the resuscitation of this industry and its establishment on a firmer basis has been the principal outstanding agricultural development in the last few years. The Caribbean markets have been secured in the face of keen Indian competition as a result of the improvement in the quality of Demerara rice and the steps taken to grade it under Government control.

Coconuts are established on 21,760 acres of land. The exports of nuts were 1,494,195 valued at £2,820 as compared with 629,335 in the previous year. In addition, 1,380 tons of copra and 20,742 gallons of coconut oil were exported. A great number of the nuts gathered were used locally for the manufacture of copra, coconut oil, or directly as food. On many areas occupied by this crop the soil is unsuitable, on the other hand there are areas where the crop could be grown which are not so utilized. Capital for empoldering and drainage is the limiting factor, while it should be emphasized that there is a great deal of neglect even in these areas where the crop is already established. This makes it very difficult to secure reliable figures as to the exact acreage actually covered by this crop and those supplied this year show a substantial decrease on last year's returns.

The acreage returned as being under coffee was 4,657 acres. The export of coffee amounted to 795,489 lbs. valued at £6,996 5s. as compared with 367,261 lb. in 1930. The area is capable of expansion notably in the North-West and Pomeroon Districts, the

difficulty being chiefly one of markets. The Liberian variety is grown.

The area devoted to the cultivation of limes during the year was 808 acres. In the year under review, 8,347 gallons of concentrated lime juice valued at £1,669 11s. 8d., and 590 gallons of essential oil of limes valued at £8,292 18s. 4d. were exported. The high prices ruling in recent years for essential oils has provided some stimulus to this minor industry, but as the areas suited to the commercial cultivation of this crop are limited, no great expansion may be looked for. Plantings of grapefruit and oranges to meet local demand continue to increase.

The cultivation of all crops in the Colony is carried out by the East Indian and West Indian ("Blacks") population. On the sugar estates the supervision of the work is conducted mostly by European staffs. There is no indentured immigration; labourers are free to come and go as they choose.

The annual exports and values of the principal agricultural commodities during the last five years were:—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Sugar—					
Tons ...	109,616	114,687	100,449	114,542	119,346
£ ...	1,830,747	1,692,639	1,238,289	1,128,934	1,109,532
Molasses—					
Gals. ...	2,877,457	2,873,468	2,536,623	3,851,337	7,106,997
£ ...	30,322	34,225	29,417	41,345	76,945
Rum—					
Pt. Gals. ...	1,081,020	1,269,923	1,109,482	846,319	722,076
£ ...	107,592	120,060	102,390	75,619	70,759
Rice—					
Tons ...	11,497	18,083	14,091	22,480	23,632
£ ...	150,806	232,114	182,585	227,164	220,904
Cocoa—					
Lb. ...	2,605,818	7,841,944	8,420,160	4,503,099	3,093,440
£ ...	24,276	73,442	65,489	29,880	17,214
Balata—					
Lb. ...	753,037	647,566	599,897	995,459	765,475
£ ...	81,773	53,635	48,260	81,311	54,138

The following is a brief resumé of activities during the year with assistance from Imperial funds.

(1) *Sugar*.—The free grant of £2,475 provided last year from the Colonial Development Fund has enabled the moth-borer investigational work to be initiated. A certain sum was allocated for the construction and equipment of an entomological laboratory in connexion with this work. The general biology of the moth-borer is being studied especially with regard to the species *diatraea canella*, and trials of rearing moth-borers on artificial media are being undertaken. Reports will be made available as the investigation proceeds.

(2) *Rice*.—A free grant of £1,820 has been made from the Colonial Development Fund for the purchase of a rice mill and rice machinery.

The rice mill complete with polisher and glazing drum, and capable of milling either parboiled or white rice, is in process of erection at Anna Regina, Essequibo, where tests will be carried out during the coming season. In addition to this complete milling plant, rice machinery—including sowing and weeding machines, power cleaning machines, power threshing machines, and hand winnowing machines—have been obtained for trial and demonstration. It is hoped that these machines will minimize the present costs for hand labour and materially assist in expediting threshing operations.

Through the assistance provided by free grants and loans from the Colonial Development Fund during 1930, paddy barns have been erected at seven centres throughout the Colony, and pure line seed, grown under the supervision of the District Agricultural Officers, stored therein for eventual distribution to accredited farmers the following season. A Plant Breeder whose salary is provided by the same fund, assumed duty towards the end of the year.

Livestock.

Very little improvement, if any, in the organization of the livestock industry or progress in the establishment of pure-bred herds has been made during the year. At the outset the initiation of any progressive scheme needs financial assistance, as until such time that funds are provided for the industry, very little improvement can be expected. Development can only come by the improvement of pasture, control of breeding animals, introduction of selected stock, grade herds, fencing, and a properly equipped experimental livestock farm with adequately trained staff. In addition to financial assistance, legislation will be necessary, as it is unlikely that peasants will take kindly to any change in the present system. Application has been made to the Colonial Development Fund for a grant for the establishment of a stock farm on modern lines.

The number of cattle in the Colony including 29,161 on the hinterland savannahs was 125,956 in 1931. Horses were returned at 3,172, sheep at 21,737, goats at 15,121, swine at 20,463, donkeys at 7,298, mules at 1,578, and buffaloes at 270.

The following table gives the exports of livestock during 1931 :—

<i>Class of Stock.</i>				<i>Quantities.</i>	<i>Values.</i> \$	<i>Destination.</i>
Asses	...	...	...	18	165	Dutch Guiana.
Cattle (horned)	...	...	...	70	1,420	British West Indies.
do.	do.	...	...	92	2,248	Dutch Guiana.
Horses	...	...	...	6	145	British West Indies.
Sheep	...	...	...	16	44	Dutch Guiana.
Swine	...	...	...	28	104	British West Indies.
do.	...	...	...	397	1,926	Dutch Guiana.

Forestry.

The valuation of the forests of the Cuyuni River was carried out during the year, whilst a reconnaissance was made of the Rupununi District from whence the bulk of the balata exported from the Colony is obtained.

Logs of purpleheart, greenheart, wallaba, and crabwood were forwarded to the Forest Products Research Laboratory at Princes Risborough for pilot tests to be carried out thereon.

One log of purpleheart and one log of crabwood were also sent to Canada for experiments to be carried out as to their suitability for making veneers.

Considerable additions were made to the herbarium, duplicates of the specimens collected being sent to Kew Gardens.

The work of re-conditioning the old Penal Settlement at Mazaruni as headquarters for the Forest Department was completed and the Department removed from Georgetown to this station during August. Owing to the late removal much of the activities of the Department had to be curtailed; temporary nurseries were, however, made and sowings commenced, the objects being to investigate and establish an artificial regeneration routine

(a) of such exotics as will best replace imported lumber and be in themselves exportable;

(b) of such indigenous trees as will prove most useful for export and for replacing imported lumber.

Under (a) teak and mahogany were tried. The teak, so far, has proved extraordinarily successful and the construction of a proper nursery was commenced.

Under (b) stocks of seedlings of tonka bean, wild cashew, crabwood, sawarri, kartang, and purpleheart were obtained.

During the year a total of 129,774 cubic feet of greenheart and 391 cubic feet of purpleheart was inspected, branded, and certified by the officers of the Forest Department and the Department of Lands and Mines, the Lands and Mines Department having undertaken the inspection of timber in Georgetown since the removal of the Forest Department to Mazaruni station.

The total amount of timber produced from licensed Crown lands during the year amounted to 562,385 cubic feet of which greenheart formed 82·38 per cent.

Fisheries.

There are three two-masted schooners and 161 small boats engaged in fishing. The local demand for fish is amply met and should it increase, additional schooners would be forthcoming. There seems little prospect, however, of development to any appreciable extent. During the year 74,029 snapper valued at \$29,600 (£6,166 13s. 4d.), and 3,121 grouper valued at \$3,600 (£750) were caught.

A fair supply of sea-fish is generally kept in cold storage at an ice manufacturing establishment in Georgetown. Salt, cod, herrings, and mackerel are imported in quantity.

The angler may enjoy good sport with tarpon (or cuffum) as well as with several other fish which are more agreeable to the palate. The river fishing in the interior is good.

Fish glue from the gilbaker to the amount of 32,326 lb. valued at \$1,774 (£369 11s. 8d.) was exported during the year.

Crustaceans, such as crabs and prawns, add much to the food supply in the country districts.

Manufactures.

There are three local manufactures worthy of mention, viz., matches, boots and shoes, and edible oil. The matches produced find a ready market locally and an export trade to the West Indies is being rapidly developed. The oil which is manufactured from coconuts and registered trade-marked as "Fryol" compares favourably with imported cooking oils. In 1930, 350,802 gallons of edible oils were imported, in 1931, 187,062 gallons were imported.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total value of the trade of British Guiana (including bullion and specie) during each of the past three years is shown hereunder :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£
Imports	2,215,715	1,971,967	1,595,205
Exports (including re-exports) ...	2,556,571	2,222,397	2,010,462
Total	<u>£4,772,286</u>	<u>£4,194,364</u>	<u>£3,605,667</u>

The value of goods in transit to other countries transhipped direct in Colony ports was £100,261 as compared with £131,393 in 1930, and £127,968 in 1929.

Domestic produce to the value of £1,931,000 was exported during 1931, £2,119,299 during 1930, and £2,498,767 during 1929. There was, therefore, a decrease of 8·9 per cent. when compared with the export of 1930, and of 22·8 per cent. when compared with that of 1929. The economic situation in 1931 revealed, on the one hand, increases in output, and, on the other, further decreases in price levels, which have within the past number of years gradually lowered.

The 1931 export of sugar which totalled 119,346 tons was 4,804 tons more than that of 1930, and was the largest since the statistical year 1903-4, when 125,949 tons were exported. A comparison of value, however, reveals a difference of £19,402 in favour of 1930.

More rice, to the extent of 1,152 tons, was exported in 1931 than in the year immediately preceding, but the value of the export in 1930, then the largest on record, exceeded that of 1931 by £6,260.

A record quantity of molasses was exported in 1931, the total for the year having exceeded that of the combined exports of any two previous years. Here again, however, the price obtained was the lowest recorded.

More lumber was exported in 1931 than in any of the three years immediately preceding, but the price obtained, 4*d.* per sup. foot, was the lowest since 1913.

Many other items of export including gold, diamonds, coffee, coconuts, and copra suffered in like manner on account of poor prices.

Canada continued to be the best market for the Colony's produce. The value of the exports to that country was £746,629, as compared with £610,040 with the United Kingdom, our next best customer. The British West Indies followed, taking exports to the value of £211,457, while the United States figure reached £195,845.

The principal exports to the Dominion of Canada were :—

					<i>Value.</i>
					£
Sugar	...	...	...	tons 79,774	734,326
Molasses	...	...	...	gals. 550,949	7,877

The principal products purchased by the Mother Country were :—

					<i>Value.</i>
					£
Sugar	...	...	...	tons 38,962	368,419
Rum	...	...	...	prf. gals. 470,116	53,760
Molasses	...	...	...	gals. 4,301,494	44,807
Balata	...	...	...	lb. 608,540	42,370
Diamonds	...	...	...	carats 22,870	41,299
Raw Gold	...	...	...	oz. 10,389	36,801

The British West Indies took 18,868 tons of rice valued at £175,848, which represented 80 per cent. of the total export of that commodity.

The principal products finding a market with the United States of America were :—

					<i>Value.</i>
					£
Bauxite	.....	...	...	tons 125,095	130,481
Molasses	...	...	...	gals. 2,216,006	23,117
Gold	...	...	...	oz. 5,976	18,687
Balata	...	...	...	lb. 111,880	8,242

Of the total quantity of sugar exported, 67 per cent. went to Canada, while the Mother Country took nearly all of the remainder, viz., 32 per cent. Comparative percentages for 1930 are 75 per cent. and 25 per cent. respectively.

After the British West Indies, our next best customers for rice were the French West Indies, which took 2,649 tons, while Haiti was third having purchased 877 tons.

Of the total quantity of copra exported, 936 tons were shipped to the United Kingdom, and the remainder, 445 tons, to Holland.

Holland, too, was the destination of the largest quantity of the coffee exported, 419,000 lb. having been shipped to that country. Norway took 263,570 lb., and the British West Indies 56,325 lb.

Sixty per cent. of the diamonds exported went to Belgium, 35 per cent. to the United Kingdom, and 4 per cent. to Holland. In 1930 the percentages to these countries were 36 per cent., 48 per cent., and 12 per cent. respectively.

A comparison of values per unit of quantity of our exports for the period 1929-31 is as follows, the figures quoted are f.o.b., and are as declared by the exporters on export specifications :—

Article.	Unit of Quantity.	1929.	1930.	1931.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Raw Gold	oz.	3 11 9	3 13 9½	3 7 11
Diamonds	carat	3 14 1	2 18 5	1 14 0½
Bauxite	ton	1 0 10	1 0 10	1 0 10
Sugar	ton	12 6 6½	9 17 1½	9 5 11
Rum	pf. gal.	1 10	1 9½	1 11½
Molasses	gal.	3	2½	2½
Rice	ton	12 19 2	10 2 1	9 6 11½
Coffee, raw	lb.	5½	3	2
Coconuts	1,000	3 9 4	2 11 11	1 17 9
Copra	ton	17 8 5½	14 17 3½	12 9 3½
Balata	lb.	1 7½	1 7½	1 5
Lumber	sup. foot	5½	5	4
Timber	cub. foot	2 9	3 2½	3 0

Eighty-one per cent. of our total import trade was with Empire countries, 59 per cent. being with the United Kingdom, as usual our largest supplier, 14 per cent. with Canada, and 6 per cent. with the British West Indies. Of foreign countries, the United States was the largest contributor with 11 per cent. of the total to her credit, followed by Holland whose share was only 2 per cent.

The principal imports from the United Kingdom were :—

	Quantity.	Value — £.
Cotton piece-goods	—	108,069
Flour, wheaten	87,369	74,225
Manures	7,020	52,276
Tobacco, manufactured	155,276	47,929
Malt Liquor	136,814	30,046
Metal manufactures	—	29,462

The main supplies from Canada were :—

	Quantity.	Value — £.
Flour, wheaten	77,929	73,300
Fresh vegetables	—	20,084
Lumber	1,104,137	11,411

The chief imports from the United States of America were :—

	Quantity.	Value — £.
Cotton piece-goods	—	30,575
Pickled meat	2,849	9,580

Some changes in the direction of the Colony's import trade with Empire countries are noted in respect of the following articles :—

Butter.—Imports from the United Kingdom increased from 28 per cent. in 1930 to 52 per cent. in 1931. This increase was principally at the expense of France from which country supplies of cooking butter were mainly obtained.

Cheese.—Sixty per cent. of the total imports was from the United Kingdom as compared with 40 per cent. in 1930 ; while Canada's contribution, which had fallen from 53 per cent. in 1929 to 46 per cent. in 1930, fell further to 32 per cent. in 1931.

Flour, wheaten.—Imports of flour from the United Kingdom have increased from 19 bags in 1927 to 87,369 bags, which represents 52 per cent. of the total quantity imported in 1931 ; whereas Canada's contribution has declined from 99 per cent. to 46 per cent. during the same period. The Dominion has therefore yielded to the Mother Country the position as the Colony's principal supplier of flour which she had held since 1913-14.

Oats.—Canada, which supplied 98 per cent. of the total quantity of oats imported in 1928, and 86 per cent. in 1929, but whose contribution in 1930 fell to 21 per cent., exported to this Colony 61 per cent. of the total for 1931 ; while the United Kingdom's proportion was reduced from 51 per cent. in 1930 to 37 per cent. in 1931. Holland supplied only 2 per cent. as against 26 per cent. in 1930.

Lard and lard substitutes.—Eighty per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom as compared with 15 per cent. from Canada, and 5 per cent. from the United States. Prior to the existence of a Canada—West Indies Trade Agreement, the origin of more than 90 per cent. of the imports was the United States.

Potatoes, fresh.—Ninety-two per cent. of the total imports of potatoes came from Empire sources, 6 per cent. being from the United Kingdom, and 71 per cent. from Canada. The Empire's contribution in 1930 was 73 per cent., the United Kingdom sending 42 per cent. and Canada 16 per cent.

Boots and shoes.—Imports from the United Kingdom fell from 49 per cent. in 1930 to 40 per cent. in 1931, and Canadian supplies from 37 per cent. to 15 per cent. over the same period. Canadian trade was lost to Japan in respect of rubber-soled footwear.

Motor cars.—Of a total of 132 cars which were imported in 1931, 57 were from the United Kingdom, 61 from Canada, and 14 from the United States, while the quantities supplied by these countries in 1930 were 98, 183, and 19 respectively—a total of 300. Relatively the imports from the United Kingdom were greater in 1931 than in 1930 although a smaller number of cars was imported from that country in 1931.

During the last quarter of the year values were favourably affected by the depreciation in the value of the pound sterling.

Exported produce shared in the additional money put in circulation on account of the high rate of exchange ruling—maintained in this Colony at around 30 per cent. Import values were, of course, similarly affected; but the element of competition among the various exporting countries, which was particularly keen, tended to restrict what would otherwise have been an abnormal rise in prices, with a concomitant abnormal increase in the cost of living.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The economic depression which prevailed during 1931 adversely affected wages of skilled tradesmen and agricultural labourers. The average wages per day of eight and a-half hours paid during 1931 were as follows :—

					s.	d.		s.	d.
Carpenters	...	...	...	...	5	0	to	6	6
Fitters, Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	6	0	,,	7	0
Painters	...	...	...	...	4	2	,,	6	6
Masons	...	...	...	...	4	2	,,	6	6
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	6	8	,,	7	6
Labourers (men)	...	...	...	...	2	6	,,	4	2
Labourers (women and children over 14 years)	...	...	...	...	1	2	,,	1	6

Persons in domestic service such as cooks, housemaids, and butlers receive monthly wages ranging from £1 to £2 10s. per month. The principal articles of diet are rice and locally grown vegetables. The average price per gallon of rice was 8d. Retail prices of other staple articles of diet were wheaten flour 1½d to 2d. per lb., pickled beef 6d. per lb., pickled pork 7d. per lb., salted fish 6d. to 8d. per lb. East Indian agricultural labourers worked an average of 4½ days at wages ranging from 6s. 8½d. to 7s. 4d. The staple article of food of the East Indian labourer is rice.

The wages of railway labourers vary from 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day of eight hours according to the nature of the work performed. These rates apply to railway workers in Government employment and correspond closely to the average paid by commercial concerns for similar work.

Labourers on sugar plantations are usually housed free. Rents in the towns and villages range from 5s. per month for one tenement room to £1 13s. 4d. for a cottage containing two or three rooms. It is enacted that each room shall contain not less than 300 cubic feet of space for each person above 12 years of age, and 150 cubic feet for each person under 12 years of age.

The cost of living for officials and professional workers was, generally speaking, lower in 1931 than in 1930. There were decreases in cost of clothing and food-stuffs. The rental of houses also decreased.

During 1931 a grant of £115,000 was made by the Imperial Treasury for the relief of unemployment in the Colony. This sum was expended on road building, sea defences, erection of buildings, and the development of country areas.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

A state-aided system of elementary education was established by Ordinance No. 3 of 1876 (now Cap. 196). With one exception, the elementary schools are denominational. The central administration is vested in a Director of Education and an Advisory Education Committee, and the local control in school managers, who are usually ministers of religion.

The number of schools which received grants in 1931 was 236 with an enrolment of 43,643 pupils, and the grants-in-aid amounted to £66,979.

Provision is made for the higher education of boys by a Government College in Georgetown, in which the course of instruction is similar to that of a public school or first grade grammar school in England.

Two secondary schools for girls, one for boys, and one for boys and girls, conducted by the religious denominations, receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The Government also awards annually one scholarship of the total value of £900 open to boys and girls and tenable at a University or College within the British Empire. Twelve scholarships, entitling the holders to free education at the Government College or at other approved secondary schools, are granted to candidates from the elementary schools. In 1924-25 the whole system of education in the Colony was investigated by a Commission. Important changes were recommended and these are being made as opportunity arises.

A Teachers' Training Centre was established in 1928. A Handicraft Centre for boys and a Domestic Science Centre were opened in Georgetown during the same year, and other similar centres will be established throughout the Colony as occasion demands.

A Trades Centre for boys and youths was opened in Georgetown during the latter part of 1931. It is run on the lines of a junior technical school and provides a course in woodwork and technical drawing. Apprentices and journeymen in the building and other trades attend evening classes at the Centre, and men teachers from the elementary schools have also received instruction which will enable them to become instructors at the various woodwork centres which it is the intention of the Government to establish throughout the Colony.

Towards the end of 1931 the erection of the new Government Elementary School in Georgetown was commenced. This project was part of the Government's policy of reorganization adopted in accordance with the report of 1925, but could not be carried into

effect earlier on account of the economic depression. The school is now being erected and equipped from a grant from the Imperial Government. It is the intention of the Colonial Government to use the school as a demonstration and practising school in connexion with the Teachers' Training Centre, which should have an important effect in raising the general standard of efficiency in the elementary schools throughout the Colony.

With regard to Welfare Institutions, orphans are housed and educated in two Roman Catholic institutions, viz., the Ursuline Convent in Georgetown for girls and the Convent of Mercy at Plaisance for boys. There are now no Government orphanages, but there is a Government Industrial School at Onderneeming in Essequibo for the education and industrial training of wayward boys.

There is no State insurance for accident, sickness, or old age.

There is a philanthropic fund called the Trotman Fund, founded in 1887, from which destitute sugar planters and destitute widows and orphans receive financial assistance through the Committee of the Trotman Trust Fund.

There is also the De Saffon Trust Fund which is administered by Trustees which provides for the maintenance and education of orphan children.

For the general community, recreation is encouraged by several sports clubs which cater for the different social classes. The secondary schools provide playgrounds and the pupils take part in cricket and football competitions. Music is taught principally in girls' secondary schools and by private persons. Examinations are held annually by examiners who visit the Colony under the aegis of the Trinity College of Music and the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music. The Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association and similar institutions provide, in addition to outdoor recreation, literary classes.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

Roads, with an aggregate length of 272 miles and a fair motoring surface, extend along the coastlands from Skeldon on the Corentyne River to Charity on the Pomeroon River, and also along the lower reaches of the principal rivers for short distances, but do not penetrate inland. Communication beyond these limits is, generally speaking, by water, but there are also roads and paths in the interior. These are as follows :—

In the North-West District, between Arakaka on the Barima River, and Towakaima on the Barima River, a distance of 29 miles, with a branch line to Five Stars, a distance of 17 miles ; and from the Barima River, opposite Morawhanna, to Wania

Creek, a distance of 11 miles, eight of which are suitable for motor traffic. The latter road passes over the Mabaruma hills, on which are situated the Government offices for the administration of the District, a public hospital, etc.

In the Potaro District, between Tumatumari and St. Mary, Konawaruk, $14\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and Potaro Landing and Minnehaha, $19\frac{1}{2}$ miles, with connecting trail from the six-mile post on the former road to the ten-mile post on the latter (known as the Tiger Creek Line) a distance of $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and a trail from the $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile post on the Potaro North Fork Road to Kangaruma on the right bank of the River Potaro, a distance of $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

In the Essequibo District, between Bartica on the Essequibo River and Kaburi on the Mazaruni River, a distance of $78\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and between lower Camaria and Upper Camaria on the Cuyuni River, a distance of $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Bartica, at the junction of the Essequibo and Mazaruni Rivers, is connected by path to Kaburi on the latter River, and from there trails extend to Potaro Landing on the Potaro River, a distance of 32 miles, and to Tiboku Falls, a distance of about 76 miles, on the Mazaruni River.

A cattle trail is being maintained by the Government between Takama on the Berbice River and Annai on the Rupununi River, a distance of 182 miles, with a branch line to Arakwa, a place approximately opposite Wismar on the Demerara River.

A loan of £46,200 was made from the Colonial Development Fund for the construction of the Bartica-Potaro Road for opening up the interior of the Colony. At the end of 1931, £22,232 3s. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. was spent; average amount per mile being £236 10s. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. The road was extended for a distance of 50 miles during the year bringing it within eight miles of the Potaro River; the length of road constructed to the end of 1931 was 94 miles. According to the present programme, the road will be continued for ten miles during 1932, two of which will be on the right bank of the river joining up with the existing road from Potaro Landing to Kangaruma. It is anticipated that a suspension bridge of 360 feet span will be erected across the Potaro River during this year.

Approximately 10 miles of burnt earth roads in the vicinity of Georgetown were macadamized and oiled during the year as unemployment relief works from funds provided by the Imperial Government.

Railways.

There are two lines of single-track railway in the Colony which were acquired by the Government from the late Demerara Railway Company, and are operated under the control of the Transport and Harbours Department. One of the lines runs from Georgetown along the east coast of Demerara for a distance of $60\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Rosignol on the left bank of the Berbice River and diagonally

opposite New Amsterdam. The other runs along the west coast of Demerara for a distance of $18\frac{1}{2}$ miles, starting at Vreed-en-Hoop on the left bank of the Demerara River and ending at Parika, a point on the coast immediately opposite the Island of Leguan in the estuary of the Essequibo River.

Government Steamer and other Inland Services.

The Transport and Harbours Department also operates steamers on the following routes :—

Ferries across the Demerara, Berbice, and Essequibo Rivers.

A steamer service from Georgetown to Morawhanna and Mabaruma on the Barima and Aruka Rivers, North West District.

Georgetown to Adventure on the Essequibo coast.

Georgetown to Bartica at the junction of the Essequibo, Mazaruni, and Cuyuni Rivers.

Georgetown to Pickersgill and other stations on the upper reaches of the Pomeroon River.

Parika to Adventure and Bartica.

New Amsterdam, on the right bank of the Berbice River, to Paradise, 110 miles up that river.

Launch services are also run as follows :—

Charity on the Pomeroon River, up and down the river, and also to Acquero on the Moruka River.

New Amsterdam to Ilkuruwa up the Canje Creek.

A lorry service from Georgetown to Potaro via Bartica is now being run by the Department.

Messrs. Sprotons, Limited, operate a steamship service between Georgetown, Wismar on the west bank, and MacKenzie on the east bank of the Demerara River. Sailing craft owned by this Company also run between Georgetown and New Amsterdam.

Omnibuses operate on all the roads of the Colony and provide a cheap though somewhat unreliable form of transport. There are no organized services and the fees for licences vary in accordance with the density of the population and the economic prosperity of the areas over which the omnibuses operate. Efforts are being made towards the inauguration of a reliable and up-to-date omnibus service for the city of Georgetown.

Postal.

(Including Telephones, Telegraphs, and Wireless).

The Postal Service embraces the whole of the coastlands and extends up the principal rivers. The General Post Office is situated in Georgetown, and there are 38 branch post offices at which all classes of postal work are transacted, including savings bank, money order, and postal order business. The postal agencies are 35 in number, at 24 of which postal orders may be obtained,

and the number of travelling post offices is now ten, at three of which postal orders are obtainable. A separate branch of the Post Office controls the inland telegraph and telephone systems. There are 47 telegraph offices connected by 390 miles of wire. Up-to-date telephone systems are operated in Georgetown and New Amsterdam to which there are 1,000 and 125 subscribers, respectively, both exchanges being in continuous service. During June, 1928, a Strowger automatic exchange was opened at Georgetown to which are connected 100 subscribers. In addition there are ten country sub-exchanges, two of which were converted in October, 1927 and one in December, 1928, to a semi-automatic continuous service. A separate police and railway service is operated.

The Georgetown Wireless Station (taken over from the Admiralty) is in communication with ships at sea and neighbouring points, and a direction-finding station is also maintained. In conjunction with the main station five stations are maintained in the interior of the Colony, one of these being operated by a private Company under Government licence.

Shipping.

Regular steamship communication is maintained with the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America, the West Indies, and the Dutch and French Guianas. The principal lines calling here are the Harrison Direct Line, the Trinidad Line, the Royal Netherlands West India Mail, the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the Canadian National Steamships, the Ocean Dominion Steamships, the Aluminium Line, the Munson Steamship Line, British Molasses Steamships, and the Dutch Government steamers from Surinam.

Airways.

A weekly air mail service between Miami and Brazil via Cuba, Haiti, Porto Rico, the West Indian Islands, Georgetown, and Dutch and French Guianas is operated by Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Currency.

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. British sterling and United States gold coin are current and are legal tender.

On 16th August, 1915, the Combined Court approved of the issue of Government currency notes of the face value of \$1=4s. 2d. and \$2=8s. 4d. The first notes were issued in January, 1917, and on 31st December, 1931, there were notes in circulation to the face value of £104,166 13s. 4d.

The Government Note Issue is fully backed by a Note Guarantee Fund, two-thirds of which are invested and one-third retained in coin. A Depreciation Fund equivalent to 10 per cent. of the invested portion of the Note Guarantee Fund provides for any depreciation that may occur in the investments of the Note Guarantee Fund.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and the Royal Bank of Canada have establishments at Georgetown, with branches at New Amsterdam, Berbice. Both of these banks carry on savings bank business.

The first Government Savings Banks were established at Georgetown and at New Amsterdam in the year 1836, and the first Post Office Savings Banks in December, 1889. In November, 1910, the Combined Court passed a resolution approving of the amalgamation of these banks, and authorizing the transfer of the Government Savings Bank to the Post Office as from 1st July, 1911.

Savings Bank business is conducted at 40 post offices throughout the Colony.

On 31st December, 1931, there were 33,705 depositors with a total of £311,219 1s. 8d. at credit in the banks. The investments on the same date were £318,573 9s. 10d. from which an interest income of £14,888 8s. 1d. was received. The bank has a Depreciation of Investments Fund of £17,129 10s. 7d.

Co-operative Credit Banks.

Provision was first made for the establishment of Credit Banks in this Colony in the year 1914 by the enactment of Ordinance No. 9 of 1914, which forms Part VII of Chapter 84—Local Government Ordinance, under which banks are registered. All registered banks have legally to adopt the "Model Rules" contained in the Fifth Schedule to the Chapter.

Designed primarily to provide credit for peasant-farming, raising crops of rice, cane, and ground provisions, and to inculcate thrift, the banks have also given assistance to many other forms of industrial undertakings and had a subscribed share capital of \$82,471·00 at 31st December, 1931. The following table shows the progress made since 1914:—

			<i>Banks.</i>	<i>Members.</i>	<i>Subscribed Share Capital.</i>
					\$
1915	...	...	3	280	611·00
1931	...	...	27	10,910	82,471·00

The liability of members is limited. In the Ordinance mentioned above, provision is made for the banks to obtain loans from public funds, repayable in 25 years. To augment lending capital the banks have borrowed loans totalling \$63,363·00 which amount has been reduced to \$31,899·76 by payment of the required annual instalments with interest. Owing to the financial condition of the Colony, loans are not now available. Consequent on a temporary cessation of loans from public funds during 1919–1922, the banks secured from the Colonial Bank (Barclays) temporary loans amounting to \$72,837·00 of which \$67,057 have been repaid. At 31st December, 1931, there were 3,722 members indebted to the banks for loans outstanding \$99,771·67, and for interest outstanding \$9,437·75.

Interest charged on loans to members is at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. The rules provide for the building up of reserve funds out of profits and at 31st December, 1931, the total investments held under these reserves for all banks stood at \$26,906·49.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Facilities for prospectors and other workers in the interior, such as the clearing of creeks, the making of bridle-paths and trails, and the maintenance of portages around the falls in the various rivers, were maintained.

The sea defences have been satisfactorily maintained during the year. Those on the west coast of Demerara were strengthened by the construction of approximately two-thirds of a mile of new reinforced concrete wall, the addition of a new wave screen to about two-fifths of a mile of existing concrete wall, and the underpinning of one mile of concrete wall, funds being provided by the Imperial Government for the relief of unemployment.

Mr. G. O. Case, Consulting Engineer, visited the Colony in September at the instance of several sugar producers who entertained anxiety with regard to the safety of the sea defences fronting their estates. The opportunity was taken by Government of seeking the advice of Mr. Case upon the state of the sea defences generally on the east and west coasts of Demerara, and as a result of reports presented by him, certain works were undertaken upon both coasts. These consisted mainly of the construction of groynes and were put in hand at the end of the year.

One artesian well has been drilled during the year, i.e., at Vreed-Hoop, west bank, Demerara, thus bringing the total number of Government wells to 45.

Four wells—three on the west coast, Demerara, and one on the east coast, Demerara, were reconditioned, bringing the total so dealt with to 14.

Experimental work, with a view to ascertaining a material for screens unaffected by the corrosive action of the water, has been carried out, and the results have tended to show that screens of non-metallic material are likely to prove the most satisfactory type for use in the artesian waters of the Colony.

A system of distribution pipes was laid in Kitty Village, east coast, Demerara, from an artesian well involving the laying of one and a-half miles of pipes and the provision of four supply points.

A new out-patient department including dispensary was erected at the Public Hospital, Georgetown, and also a new casualty block with in-patients' dispensary and living quarters for the medical officer on duty. These were both brought into use during the year.

A Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre in Georgetown was erected by the Public Works Department from funds provided jointly by the Government and the Town Council, and this was also opened during the period under review.

The erection of a new Government school in Georgetown to accommodate 600 children was put in hand during the year and will be completed during 1932.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court consists of not less than two, but may consist of three or more Judges. The Court is duly constituted during and notwithstanding any vacancy in the office, or absence from the Colony of any Judge.

A single Judge may, subject to Rules of Court, exercise in Court or Chambers all or any part of the jurisdiction vested in the Court.

Civil Cases.—These may be said to constitute the most important branch of the work of the Court, as one or other of the three Judges of the Courts sits to hear such cases almost continuously throughout the year except during the statutory vacation of the Court in the months of July and August each year. The jurisdiction in civil cases is exercised by any one of the three Judges of the Court, an appeal from a final judgment of a Judge in cases of amounts exceeding \$250 being provided at present (since 1921) to the West Indian Court of Appeal; while appeals in cases of amounts not exceeding \$250 and in cases of certain kinds of interlocutory orders go to a bench composed of the other two Judges of the Court, constituting the "Full Court" or "Appeal Court," as is hereinafter stated. In 1931 the Court sat by one or more of its Judges on 273 days (Saturdays not being included). A Judge of the Court holds what is commonly called the Bail Court on Saturday for dealing with specially endorsed writs; on Monday for dealing with applications in actions, bankruptcy matters, etc. 395 civil cases were instituted during the year 1931, while 390 cases were disposed of, withdrawn or abandoned, the numbers for the years 1929 and 1930 being :—

	<i>Instituted.</i>			<i>Disposed of.</i>	
1929	396	264
1930	385	372

The Court usually sits in Georgetown, where cases from the less important counties of Berbice and Essequibo also are generally heard, but any civil cases required by the Rules of Court to be heard in the county of Berbice are, as a rule, taken by the Judge at the conclusion of the Criminal Sessions held in that county in

February, June, and October each year; the rules provide that Essequibo actions shall be heard in Georgetown so that the Court never sits to hear civil cases in that county.

Criminal Cases.—Statutory provision is made for sittings of the Court, in the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction, in every year in each of the three counties of Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice, as follows :—in Demerara in the months of January, April, June, and October; in Essequibo in February, May, and October; and in Berbice in February, June, and October. Power is given to the Governor to suspend or postpone any such sitting by proclamation, but this power has very seldom been exercised. The practice has been for two Judges to sit concurrently in Georgetown, the Chief Justice being, as a rule, in what is called “the First Court” and a Puisne Judge in “the Second Court,” but since 1927 the Chief Justice alone has sat in Georgetown usually. Only one Judge attends the sittings in Berbice and Essequibo, which are sometimes, but not correctly, referred to as “circuit” sittings. In 1931, the criminal cases for trial included 18 for murder, 1 for manslaughter, and 81 for other offences; these resulted in 3 convictions for murder, none for manslaughter, and 53 for other offences. The figures for the years 1929 and 1930 are as follows :—

1929.	Cases.	Convictions.
Murder	5	4
Manslaughter ...	6	2
Other offences ...	73	42
1930.		
Murder	6	4
Manslaughter ...	4	2
Other Offences	51	42

A case being stated by the Judge on a question of law arising in the trial, an appeal lies to the West Indian Court of Appeal.

Appellate Cases.—The “Full Court” (i.e., a bench composed of not less than two Judges) of the Supreme Court sits as a rule every Friday to hear (1) appeals from single Judges and/or (2) appeals from Magistrates, the Court, speaking generally, having jurisdiction only over appeals from certain kinds of interlocutory orders of a single Judge and from final judgments of a single Judge in cases of amounts not exceeding \$250 (in both instances the Judge’s leave to appeal has to be obtained), while appeals from final judgments of a Judge in cases of amounts exceeding \$250 go at present to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In 1931 the total number of appeals disposed of was 16, as compared with 10 in 1929, and 10 in 1930. Generally speaking, no further appeal from a decision of a Judge or Magistrate lies from the decision of the Full Court.

Matrimonial Cases.—The jurisdiction in these cases, as in civil cases, is exercised singly by each of the Judges of the Court. In 1931 the Court dealt with 23 cases of this kind, as compared with 13 cases in 1929, and 19 in 1930.

Admiralty Cases.—The jurisdiction in these cases also is exercised by each of the Judges singly. Cases of this kind are not frequent. In 1931, as in 1929 and 1930, there were none.

Insolvency Cases.—These are usually heard in Georgetown by a Judge in the Bail Court on Saturdays, without regard to whether they arise in Demerara, Berbice, or Essequibo. The Insolvency Ordinance, 1900 (No. 29), is based on the English Bankruptcy Act, 1883. In 1931 the Court dealt with 9 petitions for Receiving Orders, 3 being by creditors and 6 by the debtors themselves, the number of petitions in 1930 being 14 (7 by creditors and 7 by debtors themselves), while in 1929 there were 16 petitions (13 by creditors and 3 by the debtors themselves). No Administration Orders were made in 1931 as against 4 in 1930, and 3 in 1929, and applications for discharge from insolvency were made and granted in those years as follows :—1931, three ; 1930, one ; 1929, two.

Probate Cases.—Cases of actions for probate in Solemn form are not frequent. Probate in Common form is usually granted by an order of a Judge (usually the Chief Justice) on an application paper submitted to him, accompanied by the will, the probate copy of the will, the executor's oath, and the estate duty papers, and a certificate by the Registrar (appended at the foot of the application paper) that the papers are in order for probate. In 1931, there were 190 such applications as against 294 in 1930, and 238 in 1929. Letters of Administration for intestate estates were granted in 1931 as follows :—

By a Judge (usually the Chief Justice) of a Court					
(estates over \$250) ... ..	...	...	...	...	55
By the Registrar (estates not exceeding \$250) ... ..	...	...	...	...	44
the figures for the years 1929 and 1930 being as follows :—					
				1929.	1930.
By a Judge ... ..	...	...	...	82	80
By the Registrar ... ..	...	...	...	36	37

Petitions.—These are required by the Rules of the Court to be addressed to, and are dealt with by, the Chief Justice. Some of them are of a formal nature, e.g., petitions for leave to levy on immovable property pursuant to a Magistrate's Court Judgment, and petitions for leave to sell a minor's property, but some are important and involve questions of law. In 1931 there were 160 petitions filed, and 144 Orders on petitions were made including 43 Fiat Executio Orders, i.e., Orders for leave to levy on immovable property. In 1930 the figures were :—168 petitions filed, 163 Orders made, including 26 Fiat Executio Orders, while in 1929 there were 181 petitions filed, 171 Orders made, including 25 Fiat Executio Orders.

Parate Execution Proceedings.—These are relics of the Roman-Dutch practice, in which the Judge without a trial makes a summary order for the recovery of debts due to the Colony, Town Taxes,

Village Rates, etc., etc. A "summation" calling on the debtor to pay within a certain time is the first step. On failure to pay within the time stated, the summation is laid before a Judge for his "fiat" which, being granted, the marshal levies on and later, after advertisement, sells the property of the debtor. Proceedings of this kind may be either *in personam* or *in rem*, the latter form being the more common. In 1931, fiats were granted as follows:— Town Taxes, 589; Village Rates, 1,668; other matters, 73; the figures for the years 1929 and 1930 being:—

				1929.	1930.
Town Taxes	...	...	...	271	540
Village Rates	...	...	...	1,656	1,444
Other matters	...	...	...	212	107

The Chief Justice of the Colony functions as one of the Judges of the West Indian Court of Appeal, and in that capacity is required to attend sittings of that Court outside the Colony from time to time during each year. In 1931 the Chief Justice attended a sitting of the Court outside the Colony, at Barbados, in February. In that year there was no sitting of the Court in this Colony.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

There are 50 Magistrates' Courts in the Colony. 33,752 cases were instituted in these Courts during the year, of which 14,081 were Civil and 19,671 Criminal. At the beginning of 1931 there were 167 Civil and 93 Criminal cases undisposed of, and at the close of the year there were 130 Civil and 143 Criminal cases pending.

Police.

The establishment of the Police Force has been very considerably reduced in the last five years and now consists of 17 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers, and 640 other ranks of whom 45 are mounted. The annual vote has in the same period been reduced by \$83,000. Instruction in first aid to the injured became part of regular routine training in 1928, rapid progress has been made in this important branch of police duty. During 1931 the British Guiana Centre of the St. John Ambulance Association gave the following awards to members of the force: one medallion, twelve vouchers, and thirty-eight certificates. The impetus given by the Force to training in first aid has resulted in many classes being trained under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. This movement is of immense value to the community and the Colony.

Crimes reported to or known to the police during the year numbered 6,858. They comprised 18 homicides, 797 reports of other offences against the person, 103 cases of praedial larceny, 31,125 reports of other offences against property, and 2,815 of other crimes. The numbers of persons proceeded against in connexion with the foregoing figures were: 16 for homicides, 673 for other offences

against the person; 76 for praedial larceny, 837 for other offences against property, and 2,776 for other crimes.

No strikes or disturbances of any kind occurred throughout the year.

Prisons.

The prisons of the Colony of British Guiana comprise two main prisons and three small ones ; the latter are situated in remote and sparsely populated districts, viz. : Mabaruma Prison in the North West District, and Kamakusa and Annai Prisons in the Mazaruni and Rupununi Districts respectively. They are supervised by the Police stationed in those districts and are administered and maintained by the Prisons Department.

The two principal prisons are as follows :—

(a) Georgetown Prison situated in the county of Demerara containing 216 cells for male and 30 cells for female prisoners, 3 large association wards, 2 hospital wards, 5 observation cells, and 2 rooms for debtors.

(b) New Amsterdam Prison situate in the county of Berbice, containing 60 cells for male and 16 cells for female prisoners, with 2 hospital wards for male and female prisoners respectively.

The prison staffs together comprise 10 superior officers, including prison surgeons and chaplains, 48 subordinate officers, and 2 matrons.

Prisoners are employed at various trades supplying the internal requirements of the prisons, on public works, and in the cutting of of firewood, and their labour is also used on the prison farms. The English mark system is in force and is applicable to all prisoners sentenced to 12 months and upwards. None of the prisons is on the complete separate system. All prisoners are worked in association but the principle that each cell should contain one occupant only is strictly observed except in the case of patients in hospital or association wards.

As far as possible first offenders are kept separate from habitual criminals, and female prisoners are confined in separate buildings in such a manner as to prevent their seeing or holding any intercourse with the men.

There is no provision in the prisons of the Colony of British Guiana for juvenile offenders. Male juvenile offenders are sent to the Government Industrial School at Onderneeming which is a separate establishment.

The health of the prisoners during the year 1931 was uniformly good as evidenced by the daily average in hospital which was 4·84, and deaths from natural causes being 7. The prevailing diseases were influenza and malaria fever and minor injuries, and when it is remembered that the average man or woman on admission to prison is frequently suffering from disease, the health of the prisoners for the year may be recorded as satisfactory.

The number of prisoners committed to the different prisons during the year 1931 was—males 1,723 ; females 231 ; total 1,954.

Prisoners convicted of certain offences are allowed, at the discretion of the Magistrate, time to pay their fines.

There are no rules or regulations of the prisons in this Colony in connexion with the " Probation System." All persons put on " probation " by the Court are subject, however, to the conditions imposed by the laws of the Colony, the offender being placed under the supervision of a Probation Officer.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

There were 30 public Ordinances passed during the year which are as follows :—

(1) *The Summary Conviction Offences (Cruelty to Animals) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 1).* The Ordinance brings the law of cruelty to animals up-to-date, and is based on the Protection of Animals Act, 1911 (1 and 2 Geo. 5 c. 27).

(2) *The Deeds Registry Ordinance, 1931 (No. 2)*—Confers on the Registrar authority to pass transports, a function hitherto appertaining to a Judge of the Supreme Court. Provision is made for an appeal from the Registrar to a Judge in Chambers by any person affected by an order or decision of the Registrar. There is also an appeal to the Full Court from a Judge of the Court refusing to permit the passing of a transport, mortgage, etc., or from any order or decision of a Judge in Chambers. The power to frame rules and regulations conferred on the Legislative Council by Section 8 of Cap. 177, and the power by Section 40 of the same Ordinance to regulate fees and costs by Rules of Court are by Section 6 of this Ordinance transferred to the Governor in Council.

(3) *The Customs Duties Ordinance, 1931 (No. 3)* varies the method of assessment of export tax on precious stones.

(4) *The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 4)* is to give effect to the Convention on the Execution of Arbitral Awards, signed at Geneva on behalf of His Majesty on 26th September, 1927.

(5) *The Convicts' Licences Ordinance, 1931 (No. 5).*—The effect of the Ordinance is to deprive a Magistrate of the power, which he had under Section 8 of the Convicts' Licences Ordinance, Cap. 22, to revoke a licence in certain circumstances, and to reserve that power to the Governor.

(6) *The Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) (Keeping of Animals) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 6).*—The Ordinance includes in the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Ordinance, Cap. 13, animals suffering from mange and extends the power of destruction to town constables.

(7) *The A. G. Biden Pension Ordinance, 1931 (No. 7)*, makes provision for the pension of Arthur Gerald Biden, formerly Auditor of the Colony.

(8) *The Customs Duties Ordinance (No. 2), 1931, (No. 8)*.—The effect of the Ordinance is to put drums (which were previously liable to *ad valorem* duty under the Second Schedule of the Customs Duties Ordinance, Cap. 34, at the rate of 16½ per cent. and 33½ per cent., respectively), into the Third Schedule where the rate of duty is 2 per cent. preferential and 5 per cent. general. Articles imported for the manufacture of edible oils are, by the Ordinance, admitted duty free.

(9) *The Forest Ordinance, 1931 (No. 9)*, provides that the estimates of the Forestry Department shall be placed annually before the Legislative Council, and that the annual appropriation of \$50,000 should cease, and that the Forest Trust as established by the Forestry Ordinance, Cap. 176, should continue as an advisory board.

(10) *The Industrial and Provident Societies Ordinance, 1931 (No. 10)*, provides for the establishment and regulation of Industrial and Provident Societies. The object of the Ordinance is to enable peasant farmers to form societies to embark in various industries which will be primarily agricultural.

(11) *The Juvenile Offenders Ordinance, 1931, (No. 11)* provides for proceedings in reference to juvenile offenders and establishes juvenile courts for the trial of such offenders. The Ordinance is an adaptation of a model ordinance on the subject with the necessary modifications to suit local conditions.

(12) *The Income-Tax (Commissioners' Functions) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 12)* amends the law relating to income-tax with respect to the functions of Commissioners, the object being to enable a single Commissioner to do all the acts of the Commissioners except the hearing of objections.

(13) *The Legal Practitioners Ordinance, 1931, (No. 13)*, amends Part II of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance principally with respect to the quorum of the Committee and the constitution of the Court for dealing with reports of the Committee.

(14) *The Leprosy Ordinance, 1931 (No. 14)*, provides, *inter alia*, for the establishment of a Leprosy Board which consists of medical practitioners of experience in leprosy. The Board is the adviser of the Surgeon-General and of the Governor on any questions relating to leprosy. Provision is made for the discovery of cases of leprosy by the requirement for compulsory notification by laymen and medical practitioners. A medical practitioner who receives notice of a case of leprosy is required to examine the case, and if he is satisfied that the person is suffering from leprosy, he must report

to the Surgeon-General. The latter may thereafter cause the patient to be examined, and if the patient is suffering from leprosy the Colonial Secretary may, on the direction of the Governor, order the patient to be removed to the Leprosy Hospital. A person who is certified has the right to challenge the certificate of leprosy before a Magistrate. Provision is made for the discharge conditionally, on parole, and unconditionally, of patients in the hospital. A patient disregarding the terms and conditions of his discharge is liable to be taken back to the hospital. An important feature in the Ordinance is provision for voluntary admission of patients to the hospital and for the treatment of indoor and outdoor patients. Formerly admission was by a Magistrate's order on the application of a person bound to maintain a leper, or on information upon oath that the leper was wandering about begging or exposing leprosy. This condition is removed. The expression "Leprosy Hospital" takes the place of the old "Leper Asylum."

(15) *Legal Practitioners (Definition of Functions) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 15).*—The Ordinance defines the scope of practice of each branch of the legal profession, Barristers and Solicitors.

(16) *The Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, 1931, (No. 16),* amends the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, Cap. 10, with respect to the jurisdiction of the Court, and the disposal of unclaimed moneys, and the power to make rules. The Ordinance sets at rest doubts which had arisen as to the powers of a single Judge in Court or in Chambers, and simplifies the procedure in respect of moneys paid over under Sections 70 and 71 of the Supreme Court of Judicature Ordinance, Cap. 10, and gives authority to fix the remuneration of legal practitioners in conveyancing and similar matters.

(17) *The Supplementary Appropriation (1930) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 17),* is to allow and confirm certain expenditure incurred during the year ended on 31st December, 1930.

(18) *The Customs Duties Ordinance (No. 2) 1931, (No. 18),* amends the Customs Duties Ordinance, Cap. 34, with respect to the rates of duty on certain articles, especially in regard to a number of articles which under the existing tariff obtained greater preference as Empire goods than the Canadian Trade Agreement of 1925 required.

(19) *The Income-Tax (Temporary Surtax) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 19),* provides that in addition to the rates of tax prescribed by Section 22 of the Income-Tax Ordinance, Cap. 38, there shall be levied for the year of assessment, 1931, a tax at the rate of 30 per cent. of the tax payable by any person on his chargeable income.

(20) *The Mining Ordinance, 1931, (No. 20),* amends the Mining (Consolidation) Ordinance, Cap. 175, with respect to the areas to be granted by concession, mining on private lands, and the refund of deposits. The area under which an exclusive permission may be

granted without the prior approval of the Secretary of State is increased from 500 to 1,000 acres. The number of advertisements required to be published under Section 27 of the Mining (Consolidation) Ordinance of the intention to grant a concession or lease is reduced from three successive Saturdays to a minimum of two advertisements. Section 52 as now enacted preserves the rights of owners of private lands granted prior to the Mining Ordinance, 1903, to base minerals, which rights are correctly stated in Section 53 of Cap. 175 but erroneously so in Section 52. The right to a refund of fees and deposits on the refusal to grant a concession is abolished. The question of refunds can be dealt with by regulations. In the Mining Regulations certain fees are irrecoverable in any event, while it may be just to refund others where the lease, etc., is cancelled.

(21) *The Tapacooma Lake (Repeal) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 21).*—The Tapacooma Lake Ordinance, Cap. 137, was passed for the purpose of controlling an area comprised in a Licence of Occupancy issued in 1828 to the proprietors of certain plantations on the Essequibo coast. The area has now been declared a drainage and irrigation area in accordance with the provisions of the drainage and Irrigation Ordinance, Cap. 165. There is, therefore, no longer any reason for the continuance of the Ordinance.

(22) *The Spirits Ordinance, 1931 (No. 22)* amends the Spirits Ordinance, Cap. 110, as to the punishment for the unlawful possession of spirits, the object being to increase the punishment for the offence of unlawful possession of spirits, which includes rum illegally distilled, commonly called "bush rum." The penalty is increased from \$500 to \$1,000, and the Magistrate is given the discretion of imposing peremptory imprisonment not exceeding six months instead of a fine.

(23) *The Molasses (Disposal) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 23),* provides for the regulation of the sale and disposal of molasses other than for export. Section 2 provides that every person who disposes of molasses shall keep a molasses disposal book in which he shall record the prescribed particulars. Every month there is to be transmitted to the Chief Commissary an extract of the entries for the preceding month, and by Section 3, on the delivery of more than two gallons of molasses a certificate is to be issued to the person receiving it, and the latter is forbidden to remove it without the certificate. The Ordinance will in no way affect the dealings in molasses.

(24) *The Tax Ordinance, 1931, (No. 24),* amends the Tax Ordinance, Cap. 37, with respect to the excise duty on rum which is increased from \$4 to \$4.50 a gallon.

(25) *The Customs Duties Ordinance (No. 3), 1931, (No. 25),* amends the Customs Duties Ordinance, Cap. 34, in regard to the rates of duty payable in respect of fish and leather (undressed).

(26) *The Appropriation Ordinance, 1931, (No. 26)* is the annual Appropriation Ordinance.

(27) *The Criminal Law (Procedure) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 27)*, amends the law with respect to the sums payable to jurors and certain classes of witnesses who attend at the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court. The Governor in Council may by order amend or alter the Schedules fixing the remuneration of jurors and witnesses, and the Legislative Council by resolution may request that an order be annulled.

(28) *The Miscellaneous Licences (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, (No. 28)* enables a Commissary to deal with certain cases where licences have not been taken out or instalments of duty not paid, and restricts the transfer of the licence of a motor car. A Commissary is now given power to adjudicate in cases where the unpaid duty or instalment does not exceed \$10. The transfer of a licence issued in respect of a particular motor vehicle to another motor vehicle is prohibited.

(29) *The Tax Ordinance, 1931, (No. 29)*, amends the Tax Ordinance, Cap. 37, and is the result of the deliberations of a Committee set up "to advise in regard to amendments to the Tax Ordinance (Cap. 37) and revision of taxes."

(30) *The Transport and Harbours Ordinance, 1931, (No. 30)*, establishes a Transport and Harbours Department for the purpose of managing and carrying on the railways and Government vessels, and of controlling and regulating the use of the harbours of the Colony, and to create a Board of Commissioners of the Department. The Ordinance gives statutory authority for the combination of the Colonial Transport Department and the Harbours and Pilotage Department and constitutes a new department to be styled the Transport and Harbours Department to be managed by a Board of Commissioners.

Compensation for accidents is legislated for by the Accidental Deaths and Workmen's Injuries (Compensation) Ordinance, Cap. 265, Part I of which is an adaptation of the Fatal Accidents Act, 1846, (9 and 10 Vict. c. 93) as supplemented by the Fatal Accidents Act, 1864, (27 and 28 Vict. c. 95), and Part II an adaptation of the Employers Liability Act, 1880, (43 and 44 Vict. c. 42), with the necessary modifications to suit local requirements.

By the Factories (Dangerous Trades Regulation) Ordinance, Cap. 268, the erection of any factory or building in a town or within a quarter of a mile of the limits of a town for the manufacture of any explosive or inflammable substance or thing is prohibited, and the manufacture of explosives, etc., in a factory or building situated in a town is similarly prohibited.

There is no legislative provision in the Colony in regard to sickness or old age.

Section 45 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Ordinance, Cap. 14, provides for the payment of fines by instalments.

Subsidiary Legislation.

(1) *Rice (Export Grading) Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 8 of the Rice (Exporting Grading) Ordinance, 1930. The First Schedule to the principal Regulations is revoked and another Schedule substituted.

(2) *The City Government By-laws*, 1931, made under Section 215 of the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance, Cap. 86, provide for the government of the city generally, for the protection of streets and other public places, and for the registration, licensing, and control of barbers' shops, common lodging-houses, eating houses, private slaughter-houses, cold stores, and packing houses.

(3) *Dangerous Drugs (Licensing) Conditions Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 11 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1929, set out the conditions under which Dangerous Drug Licences may be issued.

(4) *The Indian Hemp and Datura (Importation) By-laws*, 1931, made under Section 10 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1929, authorize the importation in the Colony of certain preparations containing Indian hemp or datura.

(5) *The Summary Jurisdiction (Magistrates') Money Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 62 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Magistrates') Ordinance, Cap. 9, set out the mode and procedure of accounting for monies received at Courts or at the Clerk's office.

(6) *The Life Assurance Companies (Fees) Rules*, 1931, made under Section 30 of the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1930, prescribe the fees payable to the Registrar with respect to matters under the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1930.

(7) *Deeds Registry Rules*, 1931, amending rules of the Supreme Court (Deeds Registry) 1921, made under Section 37 of the Deeds Registry Ordinance and Section 6 of the Deeds Registry Ordinance, 1931, are in respect of fees charged and taken in the Deeds Registry.

(8) *The Summary Jurisdiction (Magistrates') Money Regulations (No. 2)*, 1931, made under Section 62 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Magistrates') Ordinance, Cap. 9, amend Regulation 19 of the Principal Regulations by the substitution of the word "gross" for the word "net" in the second line thereof.

(9) Order-in-Council of 18th July declares that the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1929, shall henceforth apply to the esters of morphine and di-hydro-morphinone and their salts.

(10) *The Mining (Oil and Natural Gas) Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 98 of the Mining (Consolidation) Ordinance, Cap. 175, set out the mode and procedure for obtaining exploration and prospecting licences, and regarding leases, surveys, etc.

(11) *The Mining Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 98 of the Mining (Consolidation) Ordinance, Cap. 175, apply to gold and

precious stones, and valuable minerals and metals, their ores and compounds.

(12) *The Legal Practitioners and Registry Fees Order*, 1931, sets out fees payable to legal practitioners in the absence of a special agreement in writing between a legal practitioner and his client.

(13) *The Cash on Delivery Parcels Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 94 of the Post and Telegraph Ordinance, Cap. 185, repeal Regulation 1 of the Principal Regulations and the Parcel Post Cash on Delivery (Barbados) Regulations, 1922, and substitute a new Regulation.

(14) *The Midwives (Training) Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 57 of the Colonial Medical Service (Consolidation) Ordinance, Cap. 186, are in respect of the training and examination of midwives.

(15) *Public Officers (Insurance) Rules*, 1931, made under Section 5 of the Public Officers (Insurance) Ordinance, Cap. 201, deal with the substitution of whole of Life Policies for Endowment Policies.

(16) *Chemists and Druggists (Training and Examination) Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 5 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance, Cap. 103, prescribe the course of training of persons desirous of obtaining certificate of competency as Chemists and Druggists.

(17) *The Government County Scholarship Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 57 of the Education Ordinance, Cap. 196, govern the award and tenure of Government County Scholarships.

(18) *The Teachers' Fine Fund Regulations*, 1931, made under Section 57 of the Education Ordinance, Cap. 196, set out the manner fines imposed on teachers are to be accounted for.

(19) *By-laws for regulating the passage of vessels through the Canje Swing Bridge, Berbice*, made under Section 24 of the Roads Ordinance, Cap. 113.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The ordinary revenue for the year 1931 amounted to £911,954, falling short of the estimate by £50,730, and the ordinary revenue for the preceding year by £70,887. The total Colony revenue, however, amounted to £916,939, being £96,343 below that of the year 1930.

Expenditure.

The total Colony expenditure was £1,075,983, being £17,321 below the expenditure for the year 1930. Included in the 1931 Estimates were extraordinary appropriations of £8,646, the actual ordinary expenditure exclusive of these items being £1,067,865.

Special receipts from the undermentioned sources and the related expenditure not included in the revenue and expenditure totals above are shown below :—

	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Excess.</i>
	£	£	£
Colonial Development Fund approved schemes	27,923	29,650	1,727
Unemployment Relief Works (Grants from Imperial Government)	145,000	145,102	102
Empire Marketing Board (Grant)	—	997	997
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	172,923	175,749	2,826
Loan-in-aid towards 1930 deficit ... £50,000			
Loan-in-aid towards 1931 deficit £180,000			
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	230,000		
	<hr/>		
	£402,923		

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as under:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1927	1,068,865	1,148,028
1928	1,185,811	1,159,139
1929	1,252,322	1,126,218
1930	1,013,282	1,093,304
1931 (from all sources)	1,319,862	1,251,732

Assets and Liabilities.

The Balance Sheet of the Colony at 31st December, 1930, showed an accumulated deficit of £109,956. Including the items detailed in the preceding paragraph the revenue of the year having exceeded the expenditure by £68,130 at 31st December, 1931, the deficit was reduced to £41,826, which embraces expenditure of £2,826 recoverable from the sources indicated above, the total assets and liabilities at the close of the year being £919,357 and £961,183, respectively.

Public Debt.

At 1st January, the Colony's Funded Debt amounted to	£
	4,667,468
During the year redemptions were effected to the extent of	
	<hr/>
	35,308
Leaving a Public Debt at 31st December, 1931, of...	£4,632,160
Exclusive of a portion of the Railway Permanent Annuities and Perpetual Stock that has not been funded, namely an annual debt charge of £17,625.	
Against the liability for the repayment of the Public Debt, Sinking Funds are estimated as at 31st December, 1931, to have a market value of ...	£566,664

Main Heads of Taxation.

The following were the main heads of taxation during 1931 and the yield from each :—

	£	s.	d.
Customs	463,993	5	5½
Excise and Licences	162,231	16	0
Stamp Duties	9,451	7	3
Estate Duty	3,919	6	2
Acreage Tax	3,701	5	10½
Duty on Transport and Mortgages	2,954	2	4½
Income-Tax	44,896	16	11

Customs Tariff.

The duties of Customs on all dutiable goods the produce or manufacture of the British Empire are, subject to certain exceptions, fixed at 50 per cent. of the duties on similar goods produced in foreign countries. Among the exceptions are apples, butter, cement, cocoa, cordage, fish, jams, lumber (other than pitch pine), milk, salt, which receive a preference of 66½ per cent. ; hams, lard and lard compounds, pickled beef and pork, which receive 75 per cent. ; ammonia, bags, chemicals, manure, and printing paper 60 per cent. ; cornmeal and flour about 35 per cent. ; beer and stout about 33½ per cent. ; while the difference in the duties on kerosine oil, gasoline, spirits, tobacco, and wines are small.

The rate of duty payable on most of the articles coming under the *ad valorem* Schedule is 16½ per cent. preferential, and 33½ per cent. general. Apparel, cotton piece-goods of a yardage value not exceeding 1s., cotton hosiery, and hats pay 15 per cent. preferential, and 30 per cent. general. Boots and shoes enter at 10 per cent. preferential, and 30 per cent. general, while on dutiable articles bearing an advertising device there is a duty at the rate of 8½ per cent. preferential, and 16½ per cent. general. Paints pay 6 per cent. preferential and 12 per cent. general. On motor vehicles and plated ware the duty is 20 per cent. preferential and 40 per cent. general. Confectionery is rated at 20 per cent. preferential and 60 per cent. general. Machinery of British origin is duty free, of foreign 7½ per cent. Apples are admitted at 50 cents preferential, and 1\$·50 general, per 160 lb.

Advertising matter of no commercial value is free of duty regardless of origin.

Samples are admitted free subject to regulations.

First-class postage from British Guiana is four cents an ounce or fraction thereof.

The English language is exclusively used in commerce.

Excise Duties.

Excise duty is levied in respect of rum and other spirits manufactured in the Colony. On every gallon of rum of the strength of proof there is collected the sum of \$4·50, and so on in proportion for any greater or less strength than the strength of proof, and for any greater or less quantity than a gallon.

Rum taken out of bond for the purpose of being used exclusively in any laboratory, or in the preservation of specimens of natural history for any public museum in the Colony is exempt from duty.

Upon all compounds manufactured by a compounder under the provisions of the Bitters and Cordials Ordinance—except upon medicinal preparations made from or containing spirits which pay a duty equal to the duty for the time being imposed under the British Preferential Tariff upon like articles imported into the Colony—there is collected a duty of \$4·50 per proof gallon.

Liquor made from fruit and sugar, or from fruit mixed with any other material which has undergone a process of fermentation, and contains more than 4 and less than 26 per cent. of spirits, also denatured alcohol, motor fuel, and methylated spirits, are not subject to excise duty.

Other spirits manufactured in the Colony are liable to duty at the rate of \$4·50 per proof gallon, except that upon all bay rum, lime rum, and other toilet preparations so manufactured, not over proof, and not potable, there is a duty of \$3 the liquid gallon.

There is also a distillery tax at the rate of one-half of one cent per proof gallon of rum manufactured in the Colony.

Matches manufactured in the Colony pay an excise duty at the rate of \$2·50 per case containing ten gross of boxes of not more than one hundred matches in each, and at a corresponding rate on any number of matches greater than or less than 144,000 if not packed, or however packed or put together. Provision is, however, made for repayment of drawback of the amount of duty paid on exportation of such matches.

Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed upon certain Instruments, e.g., Affidavits (1s. 6d.), Agreements (1s.), Appointment of Trustee (10s. 5d.), Articles of Clerkship in order to be admitted as a Solicitor in the Supreme Court (£79 3s. 4d.), Awards of Arbitrators in disputes involving sums not exceeding £5 4s. 2d. to £1,041 13s. 4d. (2d. to £2), Bills of Exchange for sums not exceeding £5 to sums not exceeding £100 (2d. to 2s.), Conveyance for transfer of sale of any bond, debenture, script, stock, or share (one quarter of 1 per cent. of face value), Deeds or Notarial Acts (1s. to £2).

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Centenary Celebrations.—The centenary of the establishment of the Colony in 1831 and of the union of the three counties of Demerara, Berbice, and Essequibo was celebrated in Georgetown, its capital, from Tuesday, 13th, to Saturday, 17th October, 1931. During that week a number of commemorative events took place. Interesting displays were given by the Local Forces and Mounted Police in which the Militia Band, whose reputation is second to none in the West Indies, took a prominent part. On two days there were races for which horses from neighbouring Colonies entered. There was also a mass parade of school children and community singing.

A special issue of postage stamps was struck in commemoration of this historic event.

An Exhibition and Fair was held on the combined grounds of the two leading sports clubs—the Georgetown Cricket Club and the Georgetown Football Club. Various phases of the Colony's life and activities were portrayed. The Agricultural Department exhibited agricultural produce and live stock, the Forestry Department the Colony's timber, and the Lands and Mines Department the various minerals which are being mined or which have been discovered. The Medical Department and the Education Department were represented by exhibits which demonstrated the work being carried on in public health and education respectively.

Adjoining the Exhibition there was an Amusement Park on a considerable scale.

In general, the various exhibits illustrated the occupations of the many races now inhabiting the Colony—Aboriginal Indians, Europeans, Negroes, Chinese, and East Indians. This variety of races, living together in amity, presents one of the most interesting and striking features in the life of the Colony, and has few counterparts in other countries of the world.

Visits to the Colony.—Mr. R. E. Montgomery, M.R.C.V.S., Adviser to the Colonial Office on Animal Health, visited the Colony during the period 13th April—2nd May.

H.M.S. *Scarborough* and H.M.S. *Adventure* visited the Colony in January.

Brigadier Stevens, C.M.G., D.S.O., Inspector-General of the West Indian Forces visited the Colony and inspected the Police and Militia Forces.

CHAPTER XVII.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

The following publications of the British Guiana Government are on sale at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, at the prices indicated :—

Handbook of the Colony	1s. each.
Agricultural Journal of British Guiana	6d. each.
"Rubber and Balata in British Guiana"	6d. each.
"Timbers of British Guiana"	5s. each.
Memorandum of terms on which Crown land can be bought	2d. each.

Annual Reports of :—

Transport and Harbours Department	} <i>½d.</i> per page with maximum charge of 1s. each.
Colonial Treasurer	
Comptroller of Customs	
Commissioner of Lands and Mines	
Conservator of Forests	
Director of Education	
Director of Agriculture	
Director of Public Works	
Director of Widows' and Orphans' Fund... ..	
Local Government Board	
Official Receiver and Public Trustee	
Postmaster-General	
Registrar-General	
And any others likely to be of interest	

Copies of British Guiana Ordinances likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony. *2d.* per page with maximum charge of 2s. per Ordinance.

Regulations passed under these Ordinances... .. *2d.* per page with maximum charge of 2s.

Volumes of revised edition of Laws of British Guiana to 1929 6 guineas per set (cloth). 5 guineas per set (stiff paper).

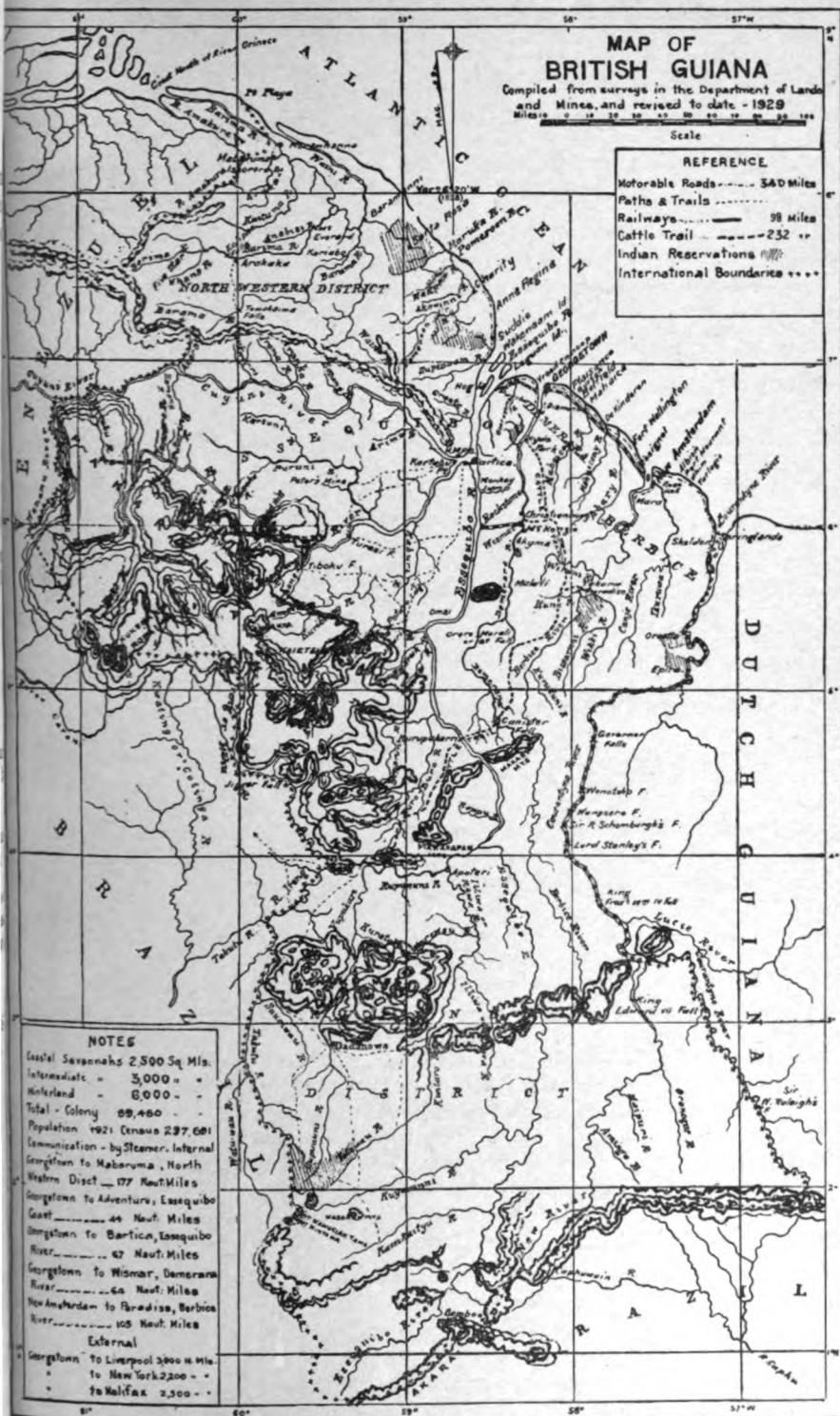
Blue Book £1.

Legislative Council papers likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony. *½d.* per page with maximum charge of 1s.

Copies of Railway tariffs and time tables Free of charge.

W. BAIN GRAY,
Colonial Secretary (Acting).

17th August, 1932.



EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.	9d. (10d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.)	1s. (1s. 5d.).
Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery.	2s. (2s. 2d.).
Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth.	£1 1s. (£1 1s. 9d.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927-30. (E.M.B. 46.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
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Malacca Territory.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

CHAPTER I

A.—GEOGRAPHY

The Straits Settlements comprise the four Settlements of Singapore (including Christmas Island and the Cocos-Keeling group), Penang (including Province Wellesley and the Dindings), Malacca and Labuan. The first three were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Singapore is an island about 27 miles long by 14 wide, containing an area of 217 square miles. It is separated from the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width, across which a causeway for road and railway has now been built. There are a number of small islands adjacent to Singapore and forming part of the Settlement.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island.

Christmas Island is situated in the Indian Ocean about 190 miles South of the western extremity of Java. The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 62 square miles, and contains extensive deposits of phosphate of lime.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands lie about 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is 5 miles by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil, and nuts are exported.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, containing an area of 108 square miles. It is situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, at the northern extremity of the Straits of Malacca. The chief town is George Town.

On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait from 2 to 10 miles broad, is *Province Wellesley*, a strip of territory averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, the whole containing an area of 280 square miles. Head quarters are at Butterworth.

The *Dindings*, area about 183 square miles, include the island of Pangkor and a strip of territory opposite on the mainland, about 80 miles from Penang. Lumut, the headquarters on the mainland, possesses a harbour with deep anchorage.

Malacca is situated on the western coast of the Peninsula between Singapore and Penang, about 110 miles from the former and 240 from the latter, and consists of a strip of territory about 42 miles in length, and from 8 to 25 miles in breadth, containing an area of 720 square miles.

Labuan is an island, some 28.6 square miles in area, lying six miles off the north-west coast of Borneo, and distant about 725 miles from Singapore. It has a fine port, Victoria Harbour, safe and easy of access. Headquarters are at the town of Victoria.

B.—HISTORY

Malacca said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore, and known as an important independent state from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the east, having been captured by the Portuguese under Albuquerque in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was occupied by the British. In 1818 it was restored to Holland, but was finally transferred to British rule by the Treaty of London in 1824, being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

Under Malay and Portuguese rule Malacca was one of the grand entrepôts for the commerce of the east. But, when the Dutch pushed their commercial operations in Java and the Malay Archipelago, its importance gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the founding of Penang by Francis Light in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade almost ceased, and it became, what it has ever since been, a place of no great commercial importance, but possessing considerable agricultural resources.

The earliest British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula was Penang, or Prince of Wales' Island, which was ceded in 1786 to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in consideration for an annual payment of \$6,000. In 1800, owing to the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was also acquired from the Raja of Kedah, the annual payment being increased to \$10,000.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded to Great Britain by Perak in 1826, for the suppression of piracy. In 1874 the cession was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which the strip of territory on the mainland opposite, known as the Dindings, also became British.

In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one Government, Penang still remaining the seat of Government. In 1836 the seat of Government was transferred to Singapore.

With the establishment of Penang the trade of Malacca passed to it. But no sooner was Singapore founded than Penang in its turn had to yield the first place to that more central port, and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first inconsiderable, that trade has become large and important owing to the development of tin-mining and rubber planting in the adjacent Malay States.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose to prominence in the fourteenth century but was destroyed by the Javanese about 1365. Thenceforth it was little more than a fishing village until Sir Stamford Raffles founded a settlement on it in 1819 by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes, and later acquired a title for the whole island. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen in Sumatra, but in 1823, it was placed under the Government of Bengal; in 1826 it was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands were declared a British possession in 1857. In 1903, they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

Christmas Island was annexed in 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1900 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

Labuan was ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Brunei in 1846. It was governed as a separate Crown Colony until the end of 1889 after which the administration was transferred to the British North Borneo Company. At the end of 1905 the Governor of the Straits Settlements was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. In 1907 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore; and in 1912 it was constituted a separate Settlement.

C.—CLIMATE

The Climate shows but little variation during the year. The mean temperature during 1931 was:—

Singapore	..	..	..	81.5° F.
Penang	..	..	..	82.8° F.
Province Wellesley	..	..	..	81.5° F.
Malacca	..	..	..	80.1° F.

The mean monthly maximum and minimum temperatures varied as follows:—

		<i>Mean monthly maximum</i>		<i>Mean monthly minimum</i>	
		Highest °F.	Lowest °F.	Lowest °F.	Highest °F.
Singapore	...	90.4 Feb.	84.2 Dec.	73.3 Jan. Dec.	77.6 Aug.
Penang	...	93.7 Mar.	88.3 Sept.	73.4 Sept.	75.9 Mar. April May

The extremes of temperature (highest maximum and lowest minimum) recorded were:—

		Highest °F.	Lowest °F.
Singapore	...	94 on several days in March, April and May	70 on 29th Sept.
Penang	...	97 on several days in February and March	71 on 13th Sept.

There are no well marked dry and wet seasons, rain falling throughout the year.

Records for 52 years at Singapore show that the average annual rainfall is 95.07 inches. December is the wettest month with 10.55 inches and February the driest with 6.62 inches. The average number of rainfall days is 183.

The wettest year recorded is 1914 with 135.52 inches and the driest 1877 with 58.37 inches.

Records for 39 years at Penang show an annual rainfall of 107.53 inches, October being the wettest month with 16.61 inches and February the driest with 2.91 inches. The average number of rainfall days is 195.

The force of the monsoons is not much felt though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time *viz*:—

S.W. from May to October

N.E. from November to April

but at the coastal stations, the diurnal land and sea breezes are often stronger than the prevailing monsoons.

The rainfall recorded was as follows:—

		1929	1930	1931	<i>No. of rainfall days in 1931</i>
		—	—	—	—
Singapore	..	79.10	83.22	100.67	201
Penang	..	82.64	95.15	103.97	198
Malacca	..	87.83	84.97	107.19	207
Province Wellesley	..	95.72	105.23	79.87	185
Dindings	..	64.14	69.73	92.31	183
Labuan	..	127.72	130.58	138.73	172

CHAPTER II

Government

The Government consists of a Governor aided by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

The Governor is appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, during His Majesty's pleasure. His office is constituted and his powers defined by the Letters Patent dated the 17th February, 1911, as amended by the Letters Patent dated the 18th August, 1924.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor as President, the General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, the Colonial Secretary, the Resident Councillor, Penang, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Resident Councillor, Malacca, two Official Members and three Unofficial Members. It is constituted, and its members are appointed under the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, as amended by Additional Instructions dated the 23rd February, 1931. The appointments of Official and Unofficial Members are nominative, and are subject to the approval or disallowance of HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

The Legislative Council is constituted by Letters Patent and Royal Instructions, and its procedure is governed by the Standing Orders made by the Council. Under Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, its constitution was enlarged and for the first time contained an elective element, provision being made for the election of two members by the Chambers of Commerce, Singapore and Penang, respectively. The Council is now composed of the Governor as President, eleven *ex-officio* Members, two Official Members, two elected Unofficial Members and eleven Nominated Unofficial Members. The appointments of the Nominated Unofficial Members are subject to the confirmation or disallowance of HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

The system of Government is similar to that obtaining in all Crown Colonies. Legislation may be effected by Acts of the Imperial Parliament, Orders of the King in Council, and Ordinances of the Legislative Council. The Governor convokes and prorogues the Councils, initiates legislation, and assents to or vetoes Bills, or reserves them for the Royal pleasure. The King has the right of veto on the Ordinances of the Colony.

For practical purposes the administration of ordinary affairs, subject to the direction of the Governor in matters requiring submission to him, is carried on in Singapore by the Colonial Secretary, in Penang and Malacca by the Resident Councillors assisted by their District Officers, and in Labuan by the Resident. The administration of the Towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, is vested in the Municipalities whose members are appointed by the Governor. Similar bodies, known as Rural Boards, administer the Rural areas within the three Settlements.

The Municipalities and Rural Boards are constituted under Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) which also prescribes their duties and defines their powers. By its provisions, the essential and ultimate control remains vested in the Governor in Council.

There has been no change in the system of Government of the Colony since its severance from India in 1867.

CHAPTER III

Population

A.—VITAL STATISTICS

A census of the population as at midnight on the previous night was taken on the 2nd April, 1931. The following figures shew the population by Settlements in comparison with the figures for the census of 1921:—

		1921	1931
Singapore	.. ..	420,004	559,946
Penang	.. ..	304,335	359,851
Malacca	.. ..	153,522	186,711
Labuan	.. ..	5,908	7,507
		<hr/> 883,769	<hr/> 1,114,015

The distribution of the total population by race was as follows:—

	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Penang</i>	<i>Malacca</i>	<i>Labuan</i>
Europeans ..	8,125	1,526	330	22
Eurasians ..	6,903	2,348	2,007	34
Malays ..	38,276	115,721	92,088	4,839
Other Malaysians	27,956	3,111	3,219	166
Chinese	419,564	176,518	65,179	2,257
Indians ..	50,884	58,020	23,238	135
Others ..	8,298	2,607	650	54
	<hr/> 559,946 <hr/>	<hr/> 359,851 <hr/>	<hr/> 186,711 <hr/>	<hr/> 7,507 <hr/>

The number of births registered during the year was 41,361 as compared with 44,703 and of deaths 27,367 as against 31,928 in the previous year.

The percentage of males born was 52.04. The highest birth-rate by nationalities was 39.16 per thousand amongst the Chinese as against 39.52 in 1930.

The corrected infantile mortality (deaths of children under one year) was 180.65 per thousand births as against 193.94 in 1930 and 181.92 in 1929.

The crude death-rate was 24.47 per thousand as against 27.32 and 26.10 in the two previous years. This is the lowest death-rate on record. The average for the last ten years is 28.51.

B.—MIGRATION STATISTICS

Statistics of direct foreign migration by land, sea and air, continued to be collected on a Malayan basis. There is no control of internal movements within the Peninsula. Gross foreign arrivals numbered 330,146, as compared with 573,401 in 1930, and gross departures 517,675, as compared with 607,142 in 1930. There was thus a net loss to the population through migration of 187,529 persons, as compared with the corresponding figure of 33,741 in 1930.

The excess of departures over arrivals was due principally to the continuance of restrictions on immigration of Chinese adult labourers, and the discharge of labourers from mines and estates due to the general trade depression.

The Tables Appended to this Chapter shew the following particulars of migration, *viz.*, (i) movements by nationalities and ports of entry, (ii) movements by months and ports of entry and (iii) movements by nationalities and countries of origin and destination.

C.—MOVEMENTS OF LABOUR

(i).—INDIAN IMMIGRATION

The total number of immigrants for Malaya arriving from Southern India at Penang was 19,692 in 1931 as against 69,114 in 1930 showing a decrease of 49,422. All these immigrants arrived in the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers. In addition to these immigrants 1,042 deck passengers arrived by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes Line; these latter paid their own passages, and are not included in the following analysis.

The immigrants were of the following classes:—

Assisted immigrants (free labourers permitted to emigrate at the expense of the Immigration Fund to rejoin their families on estates in Malaya) ..	111
Other immigrants (traders, labourers and others who paid their own passages)	19,581

Of the "other immigrants" 12,003 or rather more than 61 per cent were of the labouring classes, the remaining 7,578 being traders and others. No definite information is available as to the destination but it is estimated that about two-thirds of them remained in the Colony. Only 15 of the assisted immigrants were for the Colony.

The number of assisted passages taken during 1931 and the four preceding years for labourers and their families emigrating from Southern India to Malaya and paid for from the Immigration Fund was:—

1931	91
1930	36,957
1929	76,248
1928	24,944
1927	114,104

(ii).—INDIAN EMIGRATION

The number of deck passengers from Penang to Southern India by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1931 was 101,347 (81,190 adults with 13,728 minors and 6,429 infants) as against 151,735 (121,792 adults with 20,429 minors and 9,514 infants) in 1930.

In addition to these, 743 adults left Malaya for Southern India by Messageries Maritimes steamers.

Of the total number 40,535 adults, 2,513 minors and 2,180 infants paid their own passages, while 40,655 adults, 11,215 minors and 4,249 infants were repatriated through the Labour Department: of these latter 3,164 adults, 720 minors and 254 infants were from the Colony.

Of the 40,655 adults and 11,215 minors repatriated through the Labour Department, 30,874 adults and 8,238 minors were fit unemployed labourers for whom work could not be found in Malaya, and

the rest, 9,781 adults, and 2,977 minors were unfit for further work there.

The repatriates from the Colony were made up as follows:—

	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Minors</i>	<i>Infants</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Sent at the expense of estates ..	46	6	2
Sent at the expense of Straits Settlements Government and Indian Immigration Fund ..	2,959	708	248
Taken free by British India Company	159	6	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,164	720	254
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(iii).—CHINESE IMMIGRATION

The immigration of adult male Chinese labourers was restricted by proclamation under the Immigration Restriction Ordinance throughout the year. The restriction is applied to immigrants from China ports (including Hong Kong) only. From January to September the quota was fixed at 5238, and from October to December at 2500 per month. The total number of adult male Chinese labourers entering the Colony during the year was 49,723. Immigration from China to the Federated Malay States direct was stopped altogether.

In 1930, when immigration was restricted from August onwards, the total number of adult male Chinese labourers entering the Colony was 151,693. In 1929, the last year of free immigration, the corresponding figure was 195,613.

No restriction has been placed on the immigration of women and children. In 1931, 17,149 women and 12,153 children entered the Colony from China ports (including Hong Kong). The corresponding figures for the previous two years are:—

	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
1929	44,598	40,084
1930	42,896	38,224

The number of women per 1,000 men arriving in the Colony from China ports (including Hong Kong) during the years 1929, 1930 and 1931 has been 227, 283 and 345 respectively.

(iv).—CHINESE EMIGRATION

The total number of Chinese deck passengers leaving Malayan ports for China during the year was 213,992. Of these, 150,720 embarked at Singapore. The Malayan totals for previous years are not available. Singapore totals for 1929 and 1930 are 139,967 and 167,903 respectively.

(N.B.—None of the above figures includes 1st and 2nd class passengers).

TABLE I

NETT FOREIGN ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT PRINCIPAL PORTS OF ENTRY, MALAYA, FOR THE YEAR 1931—BY RACES

Nationalities	By Sea							By Air	By Rail			By Road	Total
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak	Kelantan		Singapore	Perlis	Kelantan			Kedah
Europeans	— 508	296	13	24	— 32	2	— 4	28	— 179	— 135	...	—	495
Eurasians	— 10	25	...	4	3	...	...	— 1	— 51	6	...	—	24
Japanese	328	60	...	3	...	...	4	— 4	— 3	— 4	...	—	384
Chinese	— 64,031	— 36,035	9	339	— 14,758	12	— 70	10	700	— 147	1,006	—	112,965
Malays	— 2,513	942	...	193	— 378	274	56	4	— 752	— 913	— 23	—	3,110
Northern Indians	1,198	10	18	...	77	1	— 1	1	46	— 182	88	—	1,256
Southern Indians	— 8,363	— 32,149	...	18	— 30,663	4	5	...	1,333	— 2,085	89	—	71,811
Other Nationalities	— 172	— 284	...	— 9	...	...	— 4	1	— 334	108	— 70	—	764
TOTAL	— 74,071	— 67,135	40	572	— 45,751	293	— 14	39	760	— 3,352	1,090	—	187,529

TABLE II
NETT FOREIGN ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT PRINCIPAL PORTS OF ENTRY, MALAYA, FOR THE YEAR 1931—BY MONTHS.

		By SEA						By AIR	By RAIL		By ROAD	Total		
		Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak		Kelantan	Singapore			Perlis	Kelantan	Kedah
1930	...	25,003	-40,213	- 43	606	- 24,560	Nil	14	- 39	4,284	- 234	1,441	- 33,471	
1931:—														
January	...	- 8,811	- 2,978	...	55	- 2,317	13	- 1	9	506	- 95	- 40	- 13,659	
February	...	- 4,902	- 2,480	...	54	- 3,101	7	2	0	- 50	- 86	- 75	- 10,631	
March	...	- 6,438	- 4,158	- 1	83	202	29	- 6	7	- 482	- 95	- 118	- 10,977	
April	...	- 6,392	- 5,185	2	43	- 3,822	43	- 6	- 1	70	- 4	163	- 15,089	
May	...	- 5,220	- 6,565	...	58	- 3,521	67	- 8	0	49	- 26	167	- 14,999	
June	...	- 3,073	- 7,309	1	29	- 7,402	27	8	- 2	163	- 351	131	- 17,778	
July	...	- 5,318	- 6,202	3	111	- 5,928	42	- 15	2	- 41	- 344	151	- 17,539	
August	...	- 5,314	- 6,851	2	12	- 4,671	17	5	5	429	- 708	162	- 16,912	
September	...	- 7,422	-10,513	14	63	- 4,122	31	6	3	- 105	- 267	107	- 22,205	
October	...	- 9,361	- 5,762	13	- 2	- 5,151	13	3	7	1	- 955	135	- 21,059	
November	...	- 6,049	- 6,518	...	35	- 3,296	...	- 1	15	63	- 198	60	- 15,889	
December	...	- 5,771	- 2,614	6	31	- 2,622	4	- 1	- 6	157	- 223	247	- 10,792	
Total for the year 1931		- 74,071	-67,135	40	572	- 45,751	293	- 14	39	760	- 3,352	1,090	- 187,529	

TABLE III

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR,
BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, FOR THE YEAR 1931

ARRIVALS FROM

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				CHINA (b)				INDIA (c)			
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (d) ...	4,227	1,783	618	6,628	639	390	73	1,102	1,084	497	102	1,683
Eurasians ...	139	75	13	227	4	1	...	5	38	34	10	82
Japanese ...	767	112	78	957	126	33	9	168	80	15	12	107
Chinese ...	60,768	9,400	6,684	76,852	52,312	18,296	12,866	83,474	1,100	256	267	1,623
Malays (e) ...	23,999	7,484	4,239	35,722	71	3	3	77	35	21	17	273
Northern Indians ...	2,616	125	134	2,875	453	5	1	459	9,727	1,050	918	11,695
Southern Indians (f) ...	1,772	122	109	2,003	52	...	...	52	21,215	2,323	2,665	26,203
Others ...	623	52	102	777	32	7	1	40	253	82	41	376
Total ...	94,911	19,153	11,977	1,26,041	53,689	18,735	12,953	85,377	33,732	4,278	4,032	42,042

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	SIAM				OTHER COUNTRIES				TOTAL			
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (d) ...	284	92	29	405	4,988	2,968	903	8,859	11,222	5,730	1,725	18,677
Eurasians ...	9	5	6	20	44	34	37	115	234	149	66	449
Japanese ...	29	5	2	36	1,095	309	144	1,548	2,097	474	245	2,816
Chinese ...	1,544	347	378	2,569	8,273	1,664	1,217	11,154	124,297	29,963	21,412	175,672
Malays (e) ...	158	61	53	272	2,595	1,056	652	4,303	27,058	8,625	4,964	40,647
Northern Indians ...	248	9	10	267	812	41	79	932	13,856	1,230	1,142	16,228
Southern Indians (f) ...	172	9	8	189	1,308	73	67	1,448	24,519	2,527	2,849	29,895
Others ...	173	142	150	465	892	264	243	1,399	1,973	547	537	3,057
Total ...	2,917	670	636	4,223	20,007	6,409	3,342	29,758	205,256	49,245	32,940	287,441

NATIONALITIES	BY AIR				BY LAND				GRAND TOTAL			
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				SIAM							
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (a) ...	130	25	2	157	976	348	208	1,532	12,328	6,103	1,935	20,366
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	54	45	25	124	288	194	91	573
Japanese ...	...	...	...	...	132	0	11	152	2,229	483	256	2,968
Chinese ...	19	1	1	21	13,830	1,662	505	15,997	138,146	31,626	21,918	191,690
Malays (e) ...	3	2	...	5	7,712	4,222	695	12,629	34,773	12,849	5,659	53,281
Northern Indians ...	1	...	...	1	1,968	118	120	2,206	15,825	1,348	1,262	18,435
Southern Indians (f) ...	...	...	...	...	2,281	556	409	3,246	26,800	3,083	3,258	33,141
Others ...	3	...	...	3	4,095	2,080	457	6,632	6,071	2,627	994	9,692
Total ...	156	28	3	187	31,048	9,040	2,430	42,518	236,460	58,313	35,373	330,146

TABLE III—Continued

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR,
BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, FOR THE YEAR 1931

DEPARTURES TO

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				CHINA (b)				INDIA (c)			
	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	T
Europeans (d) ...	3,821	1,620	481	5,922	811	478	137	1,426	1,066	685	123	1,874
Eurasians ...	112	96	14	222	9	1	...	10	38	29	10	77
Japanese ...	625	101	33	759	80	2	1	83	120	30	10	160
Chinese ...	51,739	6,475	3,359	61,573	161,192	32,054	24,813	218,059	1,736	219	189	2,144
Malays (e) ...	28,377	6,808	4,107	39,292	4	...	...	4	63	4	...	71
Northern Indians	2,587	153	129	2,869	195	5	3	203	9,681	924	564	11,169
Southern Indians (f)	1,325	79	66	1,470	30	7	14	51	64,438	19,768	14,710	98,916
Others ...	1,232	58	75	1,365	18	3	3	24	190	111	46	347
Total ...	89,818	15,390	8,264	113,472	162,339	32,550	24,971	219,860	77,332	21,770	15,652	114,754

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	SIAM				OTHER COUNTRIES				TOTAL			
	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	T
Europeans (d) ...	300	114	31	445	5,343	2,761	1,115	9,219	11,341	5,658	1,887	18,886
Eurasians ...	11	10	6	27	32	38	21	91	202	174	51	427
Japanese ...	22	4	3	29	918	287	185	1,390	1,765	424	232	2,421
Chinese ...	1,400	254	254	1,908	4,935	1,058	529	6,522	221,002	40,060	29,144	290,206
Malays (e) ...	181	55	30	266	1,580	580	284	2,444	30,205	7,447	4,421	42,073
Northern Indians	233	5	7	245	389	24	26	439	13,085	1,111	729	15,025
Southern Indians (f)	107	...	2	109	424	44	29	497	66,324	19,898	14,821	101,043
Others ...	307	179	143	629	836	171	154	1,161	2,583	522	421	3,526
Total ...	2,561	621	476	3,658	14,457	4,963	2,343	21,763	346,507	75,294	51,706	473,507

NATIONALITIES	BY AIR				BY LAND				GRAND TOTAL			
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				SIAM							
	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	Total	M.	F.	C.(a)	T
Europeans (d) ..	110	18	1	129	1,168	389	289	1,846	12,619	6,065	2,177	20,861
Eurasians ...	1	...	...	1	79	62	28	169	282	236	79	597
Japanese ...	4	...	...	4	144	13	2	159	1,913	437	234	2,584
Chinese ...	10	1	...	11	12,397	1,552	489	14,438	233,409	41,613	29,633	304,655
Malays (e) ...	...	1	...	1	8,567	4,800	950	14,317	38,772	12,248	5,371	56,391
Northern Indians	...	...	...	...	2,089	97	68	2,254	15,174	1,208	797	17,179
Southern Indians (f)	...	...	...	...	3,013	647	249	3,909	69,337	20,545	15,070	104,952
Others ...	2	...	...	2	4,110	2,274	544	6,928	6,695	2,796	965	10,456
Total ...	127	20	1	148	31,567	9,834	2,619	44,020	378,201	85,148	54,326	517,675

TABLE III—Concluded

 ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR,
 BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, FOR THE YEAR 1931

EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (−) ARRIVALS

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				CHINA (b)				INDIA (c)			
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (d)...	406	163	137	706	172	88	64	324	18	188	21	191
Eurasians ...	27	21	1	5	5	...	...	5	...	5	...	5
Japanese ...	142	11	45	198	46	31	8	85	40	15	2	53
Chinese ...	9,029	2,925	3,325	15,279	108,880	13,758	11,947	134,585	636	37	78	521
Malays (e) ...	4,378	676	132	3,570	67	3	3	73	172	17	17	206
Northern Indians	29	28	5	6	258	...	2	256	46	126	354	526
Southern Indians (f)	447	43	43	533	22	7	14	1	43,223	17,445	12,045	72,713
Others ...	609	6	27	588	14	4	2	16	63	29	5	29
Total ...	5,093	3,763	3,713	12,569	108,880	13,815	12,018	134,483	43,600	17,492	11,620	72,712

NATIONALITIES	BY SEA											
	SIAM				OTHER COUNTRIES				TOTAL			
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (d)...	16	22	2	40	355	207	212	360	119	72	162	209
Eurasians ...	2	5	...	7	12	4	16	24	32	25	15	22
Japanese ...	7	1	1	7	177	22	41	158	332	50	13	395
Chinese ...	444	93	124	661	3,338	606	688	4,632	96,705	10,097	7,732	114,534
Malays (e) ...	23	6	23	6	1,015	476	368	1,859	3,147	1,178	543	1,426
Northern Indians	15	4	3	22	423	17	53	493	771	119	413	1,303
Southern Indians (f)	65	9	6	80	884	29	38	951	41,805	17,371	11,972	71,148
Others ...	134	37	7	164	56	93	89	238	610	25	116	469
Total ...	356	49	160	565	5,550	1,446	999	7,995	141,251	26,049	18,766	186,066

NATIONALITIES	BY AIR				BY LAND				GRAND TOTAL			
	NETHERLANDS INDIA				SIAM							
	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total	M.	F.	C. (a)	Total
Europeans (d)...	20	7	1	28	192	41	81	314	291	38	242	495
Eurasians ...	1	...	...	1	25	17	3	45	6	42	12	24
Japanese ...	4	...	...	4	12	4	9	7	316	46	22	384
Chinese ...	9	...	1	10	1,433	110	16	1,559	95,263	9,987	7,715	112,965
Malays (e) ...	3	1	...	4	855	578	255	1,688	3,999	601	288	3,110
Northern Indians	1	...	...	1	121	21	52	48	651	140	465	1,256
Southern Indians (f)	...	...	...	...	732	91	160	663	42,537	17,462	11,812	71,811
Others ...	1	...	...	1	15	194	87	296	624	169	29	764
Total ...	29	8	2	39	519	794	189	1,502	141,741	26,835	18,953	187,529

NOTES:—

- (a) Children are under 12 (English) years of age
 (b) China includes Hong Kong
 (c) India includes Burma and Ceylon
 (d) Europeans include Americans

- (e) Malays include all natives of the Malayan Archipelago
 (f) Southern Indians are natives of the Presidency of Madras and the States of Mysore and Travancore

CHAPTER IV

Health

A.—MORTALITY AND PREVALENCE OF DISEASE

(i).—GENERAL

The number of deaths registered as from infantile convulsions (deaths of children under one year) was 4,607 as against 5,136 and 4,692 in the two previous years. Dietetic errors, malaria and tetanus are the commoner causes of infantile convulsions. Malaria was responsible for 3,505 deaths as against 5,018 and 4,648 in the two previous years, while fever unclassified accounted for 1,502 deaths against 1,995 in 1930 and 1,764 in 1929.

Deaths to the number of 2,580 were registered as due to tuberculosis as compared with 2,795 in the year 1930.

Pneumonia accounted for 2,373 deaths as compared with 2,343 in the previous year. Three hundred and forty-nine deaths were registered as due to influenza as against 281 in the previous year.

Beri-beri accounted for 911 deaths as against 1,047, 944 and 1,146 in the three previous years.

Dysentery caused 618 deaths classified as follows:—

Amœbic	..	..	..	112
Bacillary	..	..	..	132
Unclassified	..	..	..	374
				<hr/>
				618

The number of deaths from dysentery in the previous year was 770.

Infectious diseases—There were 48 deaths from small-pox and thirteen deaths from cerebro-spinal fever. There was no plague or cholera during the year. Five imported cases of cholera occurred at Penang.

The figures for 1930 showed 59 deaths from small-pox (of which three were imported cases) and twenty-three deaths from cerebro-spinal fever which included two imported cases.

(ii).—HOSPITALS

Fifty-eight thousand five hundred and twenty-six patients were treated in the hospitals of the Colony as compared with 74,039 in the previous year. The malaria admissions were 6,509 as compared with 12,997 in 1930. Admissions for venereal disease were 3,946 with 172 deaths as against 4,743 with 162 deaths in the previous year.

(iii).—DISPENSARIES

GENERAL DISEASES

Outpatients numbered 258,311 and the attendances 493,299 as against 244,620 outpatients and 466,380 attendances in 1930. The attendances at the Women and Children's Out-door Dispensary, Kandang Kerbau, Singapore, were 35,814 as compared with 32,200 in 1930. At the Women and Children's Out-door Dispensary, Penang, the attendances were 15,722 as against 14,832 in the previous year.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Outpatients treated for venereal diseases were 28,336 as compared with 36,388 in 1930. The attendances were 336,040 as against 267,746 in the previous year.

YAWS

The number of outpatients treated for yaws was 7,477 as compared with 6,076 in 1930. More Malays who suffered from this disease have come forward voluntarily to accept treatment.

MOTOR TRAVELLING DISPENSARIES

The number of attendances at the Motor Travelling Dispensary in Singapore was 16,759 as against 19,891 in 1930. In Penang Island, the attendances were 36,384 as against 33,775 in 1930, and in Province Wellesley 29,282 as against 26,892 in the previous year. In Malacca, there were 20,543 attendances as against 20,661 in 1930.

(iv).—LEPERS

The number of lepers treated in the Leper Settlements of the Colony was 1,384 with a total of 101 deaths, as compared with 1,537 with 144 deaths in the previous year. Eleven lepers were discharged apparently cured (7 from the Leper Settlements in Singapore and 4 from the Leper Settlements at Pulau Jerejak, Penang).

(v).—MENTAL HOSPITAL

One thousand one hundred and fifty-five males and 403 females were treated during the year as compared with 1,083 males and 395 females in the year 1930. The numbers remaining at the end of the year were 912 males and 342 females as against 881 males and 306 females at the end of 1930.

B.—HEALTH AND SANITATION

(i).—QUARANTINE

Six hundred and ninety-seven visits in Singapore, and 375 visits in Penang (as against 1,186 and 480 respectively in 1930) were paid to ships by Port Health Officers, who examined 342,045 persons as compared with 647,142 in the previous year.

Fifteen thousand two hundred and seventy-five persons were retained under observation in the two maritime Quarantine Stations, mostly for short periods, as against 83,046 in 1930.

The number of persons from ships treated for infectious diseases in Singapore Quarantine Station was 1 for small-pox, and in Penang 3 for small-pox and 5 for cholera.

The figures for 1930 were—Singapore 5 for small-pox and 2 for cerebro-spinal fever and Penang 3 for cerebro-spinal fever.

(ii).—RURAL CONSERVANCY

The Health Officers in each Settlement continued to supervise and develop the sanitation and conservancy in rural areas. Conservancy in the rural area of Singapore has been well carried out during the year and sanitary conditions are gradually improving. During the year under review 3 new pit latrines have been excavated and are functioning well. Nine hundred and eighty-four insanitary latrines have been abolished and replaced by latrines of approved type, while 376 latrines have been reconstructed. An average of 2,417 cubic feet of refuse per month has been destroyed in the village incinerators.

(iii).—ANTI-MALARIAL WORK

Over \$240,000 was spent on anti-mosquito work and anti-malarial measures directed towards the general reduction of all harmful mosquitos. The chief item of expenditure was permanent drainage, but large areas were also controlled by temporary oiling measures.

CHAPTER V

Housing

The character of the housing of the wage earning population of the Straits Settlements varies in urban and rural areas. In municipal areas the houses may be classified as:—

- (a) Compound houses occupied by the well-to-do-residents.
- (b) Semi-detached houses or small bungalows occupied by moderately well-paid employees.
- (c) Terrace houses for the clerical class.
- (d) Shop-houses.
- (e) Common lodging houses which are frequently overcrowded.
- (f) Tenements in closely built areas, and
- (g) Wood-huts or semi-permanent houses in the outskirts of the city.

The shop-houses in most cases are built in rows, of solid construction and of two or more storeys. They are, in a large number of cases, insufficiently ventilated and, in many streets, are not provided with back lanes. The former defect conduces to the spread of tuberculosis and the latter interferes with the proper collection of night soil. Many of these houses are divided into small cubicles in the upper storeys by the erection of temporary partitions, without regard to the entry of light and air. It is in these cubicles that the worst type of overcrowding is found, and it is not unknown to find in a street of these houses an average of 46 people per house. The majority of the labouring and artisan class find a home in these cubicles or in common lodging houses. With so many of the wage earners living in such ill-ventilated and insanitary dwellings, it is not surprising that tuberculosis in urban areas is so prevalent and that

the infantile death rate is high. The common lodging houses are found in the densely populated areas and frequently consist of an overcrowded dormitory over a shop or store.

The landlords of this type of house-property are almost exclusively Asiatic, and in the large towns Chinese property owners predominate.

In rural areas, houses of the wage earners are generally of the Malay and Chinese types, built of planks and attaps. Brick and tile shop-houses are found in some of the larger villages. The former type of houses are usually owned by the occupier. They are, as a general rule, clean, well-ventilated and not overcrowded; moreover, this type of house, being built of planks and palm-leaves, is admirably suited to the climate and is cool and comfortable to live in. The brick and tile shop-houses in the villages lend themselves to overcrowding like those in the towns, but the evils are less pronounced as the houses are not built so closely together. A large number of labourers on rubber estates are housed in barracks consisting of single rooms with kitchens attached. These buildings in most cases conform to the standard design prescribed by the health authorities, and are therefore satisfactory when not overcrowded. Most of the houses, occupied by Malay small-holders and peasants, in rural areas, are detached and built of planks or bamboo with attap roofs. They are raised about four to six feet above the ground level. These houses are well-ventilated, cool and commodious. Practically all are owned by the occupiers.

It will be noted that action to relieve defects is required chiefly in the case of shop-houses and common lodging houses in towns, many of which contain cubicles and are dangerously overcrowded. Steps to ameliorate these conditions are being taken by the Improvement Trust in Singapore. On rebuilding by the owners, proper air space must be provided and back lanes must be made of a width of 15 to 20 feet. The Improvement Trust has entered on a fixed programme of driving back lanes through existing congested areas. When this involves reconstruction, the Trust recovers the cost of the land. The Trust has also bought up several large blocks of slums and pulled them down or established open spaces in their centres. Roughly 50 acres of land bordering on the Chinese area and formerly occupied by squatters, has been bought up, filled in, provided with roads, and laid out in building lots for sale with a view to relieving the congestion. The Trust has built 118 better class cottages at Lavender Street for occupation by the clerical classes, and two large blocks of tenements comprising about 250 rooms at Kreta Ayer Road. It is also now erecting artizan dwellings in Balestier Road, and 76 such houses have been built to date, with a further 148 in course of construction.

In Penang, amelioration has been effected by the issue of nuisance notices under the Municipal Ordinance, resulting in the improvement of many buildings during the past 10 years. The Municipality has also demanded alterations in buildings to comply with by-laws under the Municipal Ordinance with a view to improving light and ventilation and avoiding overcrowding. The Health Department freely uses its powers to enforce the demolition

of insanitary dwellings. Steps have also been taken to maintain the common lodging houses in a sanitary and uncrowded condition.

In Malacca, amelioration is effected by constant inspection and action under the Municipal Ordinance and by-laws. In rural areas, gazetted village planning schemes have been evolved so as to ensure a suitable layout of buildings. Demolition notices are enforced in towns and villages where such a course appears to be the only remedy. The work of providing all dwellings with sanitary latrines is proceeding rapidly. It can be stated with confidence that almost all buildings now being erected in rural areas are of moderately good and sanitary type without being too expensive.

There are no building societies in the Colony.

CHAPTER VI

Production

A.—AGRICULTURE

(a) CROPS GROWN BY EUROPEANS AND ASIATICS

Agricultural production on large estates owned by European companies or by companies consisting jointly of Europeans and Asiatics is confined to crops of rubber, coconuts and in one instance a small area of coffee. The first two crops are also grown extensively on properties of varying sizes from large estates to holdings of a few acres owned by Chinese, Malays, Indians and members of the other non-European communities resident in the Colony. Coffee cultivation on the other hand is limited to about 1,000 acres in the Dindings, Malacca and Singapore Island of which about 700 acres are owned by Asiatics.

Rubber, with the exception of a comparatively small quantity absorbed by a manufacturer in Singapore, is all exported to foreign countries. Coconuts, in the form of fresh nuts and coconut oil, are consumed locally, and are also exported in quantities in the form of copra and, to a less extent, of fresh nuts, which are shipped to Burma. The coffee is all consumed locally.

Rubber.—The selling price of rubber in 1931 declined even further than in 1930. The average Singapore price for ribbed smoke sheet over the year was 9.78 cents per lb., the highest price being 13¼ cents in January, and the lowest 7¼ cents in August and September. These prices were below the cost of production on many properties.

The area planted with rubber remained practically unchanged at 341,303 acres of which 15,515 were not yet in tapping. Of the total area 62.98 per cent consisted of estates of over 100 acres and 37.02 per cent of areas under 100 acres in extent, the latter being almost entirely owned by Asiatics.

Production as shown by exports amounted to 50,112 tons in 1931, valued at \$11,413,008, as compared with 46,474 tons in 1930, valued at \$20,062,361.

On a number of the estates the practice of tapping only the higher yielding areas has become increasingly prevalent. The average

productive area left untapped on estates during the year was 51,011 acres. In the islands of Singapore and Penang and in Province Wellesley considerably more than half of the smaller holdings remained untapped for the greater portion of the year. In Malacca tapping was discontinued on properties of varying size belonging to Chinese and Indians. In Malacca and the Province many Malay owners who were also holders of padi land left their rubber trees untapped during the periods of rice planting and harvest. Practically the only holdings on which tapping was continuous were those whose owners had no other means of livelihood. A slight improvement in the price of rubber during the last two months of the year resulted in a considerable increase in the number of holdings tapped.

The area planted with budgrafted rubber amounted to 4,504 acres of which 171 are in bearing. Imports of budwood and budded stumps showed a further decrease, since many estates now possess their own multiplication nurseries.

Of rubber diseases Mouldy Rot proved troublesome during the wetter periods of the year; control was hampered by the inability of many owners to incur the expenditure necessary for complete efficiency. Leaf mildew caused by *Oidium Heveae* occurred extensively in Malacca and sporadically in Province Wellesley immediately after the wintering season, but its effects were unimportant owing to the occurrence of wet weather conditions soon after its appearance.

Coconuts.—The average Singapore prices for copra of "Sundried" and of "Fair Merchantable" qualities during the year were respectively \$5.09 and \$4.64 per picul as compared with \$7.80 and \$7.45 in 1930. The highest price for "Sundried" was \$6.15 in March, and the lowest \$3.70 in June.

There has been little change in the area planted with coconuts as given in the report for 1930 (82,047 acres of which 11,846 were not in bearing), with the exception of certain newly planted holdings in the Dindings. In Province Wellesley and Penang many of the palms are of great age. The annual mortality among them is in consequence high, but is partly counterbalanced by replacements.

It is at present extremely difficult to form even a rough estimate of the total production of nuts in the Colony. Many dwellings have small groups of palms planted near them, their produce being used entirely for local consumption, as also are the nuts from many of the holdings under five acres in area. Of the copra produced the greater part is exported, but a portion is used by the oil mills in Singapore and Penang which, however, also purchase copra imported from the islands of the archipelago. Much of the copra prepared in the Federated and Unfederated Malay States as well as in some of the islands of Netherlands India is exported through the ports of the Colony after re-drying and grading. In addition Penang has an export trade in fresh nuts mainly to Burma.

The standard manurial experiments instituted in 1930 on seven coconut estates, including two in the Colony, have been continued but have not yet been in progress long enough to give definite results. Selection, cross-pollination, manuring and cultivation experiments

have been continued at the departmental experiment station at Klang, and on Carey Island.

Investigations into improved methods of preparing copra, which are being undertaken with financial assistance from the Empire Marketing Board, have commenced to give valuable information. The officer engaged in this work visited Ceylon in August to make a comparative study of methods of coconut cultivation and copra preparation in that island. A report giving the results obtained to the end of 1931 is being published. It has been definitely established that Malayan copra is inferior in quality to that prepared in Ceylon and that this inferiority is due less to climatic factors than to careless harvesting of nuts on small holdings, and, on properties of all sizes, to methods of preparation which frequently leave room for improvement. It would also appear that the importation of copra and its subsequent re-drying and grading affect the quality of copra demanded by the local market.

Control of the Coconut Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) continued to receive careful attention throughout the year and was effectively enforced in all districts, though further work is still needed in Singapore Island before damage can be reduced to a minimum. There were no important outbreaks of other pests or diseases.

Coffee.—The area planted with this crop is estimated at 420 acres in Malacca, 500 acres in the Dindings, including 300 acres interplanted with rubber on a European owned estate, and about 57 acres in Singapore Island. The actual production figures from this area are not known. Prices in Singapore for Robusta coffee from Java have varied between \$16 and \$22 per picul and for the lower grade coffee from Palembang in Sumatra between \$11 and \$16 per picul. Local prices have corresponded according to quality and at these figures have not been sufficiently high to stimulate planting, although the local demand is largely met by imports from the sources already mentioned.

(b) CROPS GROWN EXCLUSIVELY BY ASIATICS

The most important of these crops are padi and pineapples, although there are other minor products to which reference is made in the following paragraphs.

Padi (Rice).—The estimate of the total area of land plantable with wet padi in the Straits Settlements during the season 1930—1931 was 72,140 acres. The total area under cultivation in this season was estimated to be 67,350 acres yielding 26,309,000 gantangs of padi equivalent to 62,640 tons of dry unhusked padi or 38,837 tons of milled rice. These figures compare with a total planted area of 64,825 acres yielding 17,208,910 gantangs of padi in the season 1929—1930.

The crop harvested in Province Wellesley from a total area of 32,290 acres was 15,673,000 gantangs, this good crop being due to favourable weather conditions throughout the season.

In Malacca a crop of 9,132,000 gantangs was reaped from 29,920 acres, a yield slightly below the average owing to the effects of drought in one district.

In Penang Island an area of 4,620 acres yielded 1,488,000 gantangs, while in the Dindings drought destroyed the wet padi crop, so that a total area of 520 acres of wet and dry padi yielded only 16,000 gantangs, nearly all of which was dry padi.

While the estimates of the planted area are now considered to be reasonably accurate, yields, in the absence of any weighing of crop by land owners, are difficult to estimate and are only approximate.

The prices realised for this crop were low, varying from 5-9 cents a gantang in Province Wellesley and Penang, and from 5 to 16 cents a gantang in Malacca. The low prices were mainly due to heavy crops in Burma and other rice producing countries.

1931—1932 Season.—The area planted during the current season is estimated to amount to 67,540 acres out of a total plantable area of 71,380 acres. The planted area is made up of 30,730 acres in Malacca, 33,023 acres in Province Wellesley, 3,300 acres in Penang, and 330 acres in the Dindings.

In the Settlement of Penang the total yield was expected to be approximately the same as that of the previous season, although in parts of Province Wellesley dry weather in the early stages of growth had an adverse effect on the crop, while in the Dindings drought and damage by high tides have necessitated three plantings and rendered the final results uncertain.

In Malacca favourable weather conditions throughout the season gave promise of a good crop.

In both seasons the three more important padi stem borers, *Diatraea auricilia*, *Schoenobius incertellus* and *Sesamia inferens* were as usual fairly prevalent at harvest and caused a reduction of yield. Investigations into the possibility of controlling them by means of natural parasites have been continued but have not yet given conclusive results. At the close of 1931 the padi leaf hopper, *Sogata furcifera*, caused considerable damage in parts of Province Wellesley at a time when it was in evidence generally in the northern part of the Peninsula.

The rat campaigns in Province Wellesley and Malacca met with a satisfactory measure of success in preventing any serious damage to the standing crop. In Penang Island, however, where control work has only recently been commenced, damage by rats was severe.

At the Pulau Gadong Padi Experiment Station in Malacca, maintained by the Department of Agriculture, selection and testing of pure strains of local varieties have been continued with satisfactory results. Certain of the selections have given good yields not only in the Colony but in other parts of Malaya. The revised scheme of manurial experiments again gave inconclusive results and a further revision of the scheme has been evolved as part of a general investigation of the problem. A pumping plant was installed to perfect the irrigation system and to ascertain the cost and frequency of pumping necessary to supplement the rainfall.

Three Standardised Test Plots to determine suitability of selected strains to local conditions were maintained during the year in Penang,

Province Wellesley and Malacca. These provided some useful information and helped to popularise some of the strains among local growers. An attempt to grow two crops of padi during the year on the plot in Penang Island met with no success, partly owing to damage by floods and partly to the depredations of birds and rats which concentrated their attention on the only padi then growing in the district.

The Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into Rice Cultivation in Malaya presented its report early in the year; action has since been taken on several of its recommendations.

Pineapples.—The prices paid to growers for fresh fruit improved somewhat during the second half of the year, but the price for canned fruit remained fairly steady. The prices for large fruit varied from \$1.60 to \$3.50 and for smaller fruit from \$1 to \$2 per 100. Prices for 1½ lb. tins of Good Average Quality pineapple cubes varied from \$3 to \$3.95 per case of 48 tins.

The total export of tinned fruit of all grades through Singapore amounted to 58,824 tons, an increase in quantity of some 12,000 tons but a decrease in value of about \$1,400,000 as compared with the figures for 1930.

While the area planted with pineapples in Singapore Island remains at approximately 8,000 acres, the main source of supply of fresh fruit is the State of Johore. Export figures from the latter State indicate clearly that there has been a marked tendency to concentrate canning operations in the Singapore factories, since exports of fresh fruit have more than doubled while exports of canned fruit have fallen by about 33 per cent.

The Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor at the end of 1930 to enquire into matters affecting this industry presented its report which was published during September. Action to give effect to its recommendations has been under consideration.

The exhibits of Malayan tinned pineapples staged by the Malayan Information Agency at various Shows and Exhibitions in the United Kingdom have assisted materially to maintain the demand for this local product and have also drawn increased attention to the need for uniformity and improvement in the quality of the standard grades. There has recently been a tendency to pay greater attention to these important points.

Since pineapples have always in the past been grown as a catch-crop with rubber, the cessation of rubber planting will result in a diminution in the extent of the pineapple industry unless it is found possible to grow pineapples either as a sole crop or as a catch crop with some form of permanent cultivation other than rubber. The successful preparation of by-products from pineapple waste is an important factor in this connection.

Satisfactory progress has been made in planting up the various plots at the Pineapple Experiment Station in Singapore Island. Growth has, however, been slow and it is already clear that manuring will be essential whenever pineapples are grown on a soil that has been under this or some other form of cultivation for some years.

Fruit.—Local fruit trees are nearly all grown on small areas, some of which are laid out as orchards in an orderly manner, while others are planted up with a mixture of fruit and other trees without any system. No information as to the planted area or the production is available. The mid-season crop in the Settlement of Penang was reported to be good. Considerable crops of pineapples and bananas have been grown for sale in the local markets. In Singapore Island there has been a tendency to increase the area planted with fruit trees, but the supply is still obtained in the main from foreign sources which provide fruits usually of better quality than those locally grown.

Vegetables.—Vegetable cultivation is almost entirely in the hands of Chinese market gardeners who often combine with it pig and poultry breeding and, in some cases, the rearing of carp in fish ponds. This industry provides a livelihood for a considerable part of the rural population of Singapore Island and supplies the town markets with the greater portion of the city's requirements of such vegetables as can readily be grown in the plains of Malaya. There is, however, a considerable import from foreign countries and from the mainland of the Peninsula, more especially of such vegetables as are difficult to grow in the island. The area cultivated with vegetables in Province Wellesley has increased somewhat at the expense of the padi land. Prices there have, however, been low and the demand at the various town and village markets has not always been able to absorb the supply.

Tobacco.—During the year the cultivation of this crop by Chinese market gardeners in the Settlement of Penang was considerably extended. At the close of the year over 100 acres were planted. The year's crop amounted to 625 piculs (approximately 37 tons) sold for prices varying from \$48 per picul in April to between \$15 and \$30, according to quality, in December. Small trial areas of tobacco were also planted in Malacca and Singapore Island. The crop is mostly sold for the manufacture of local cheroots, but recently a Chinese owned factory for the preparation of a fine shag has been opened in Province Wellesley. The Department of Agriculture is conducting experiments with this crop at several stations including the Pineapple Station in Singapore. Important pests and diseases have already made their appearance. These include several species of leaf eating caterpillars, the stem borer, *Gelechia heliopa*, and Slime disease caused by *Bacterium solanacearum*.

Cloves and Nutmegs.—Prices for cloves ranged from \$75 to \$38, for nutmegs from \$35 to \$10, and for mace from \$80 to \$40 per picul. The prices were high at the beginning of the year, but declined after May. This crop is grown mainly by Chinese and is confined to Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley and the Western slopes of Penang Hill. The holdings have recently received more attention owing to the low price of rubber, but the Cerambycid stem borer continues to do extensive damage to cloves, as no successful means of control has been devised.

Other crops grown on a small scale by Asiatics for local consumption include Arecanut, tapioca, sago and sugar cane, while in certain localities the drying and platting of the leaves of the Nipah palm for roofing material constitutes a local industry of some importance.

(c) LIVESTOCK

Stock.—The Singapore Cold Storage Company has continued to maintain its Dairy and Pig Farm in Singapore Island to provide supplies of fresh milk and pork. This Dairy is the only one of its kind in the Colony. The demand for fresh milk is at present considerably in excess of the quantity that the Dairy is able to supply. The pork produced has a ready sale, mostly among Europeans, though steps are being taken to meet the requirements of the Chinese community.

(d) AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION

Agricultural Instruction.—In order to improve local methods of Agriculture and encourage the planting of a wider range of crops the Department of Agriculture makes use of various methods of instruction and propaganda.—

(a) *Demonstration Stations.*—Good progress was made in the establishment of the station at Sungei Udang in Malacca and a site was secured for a second station near Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley. Two sites have also been reserved for stations at Segari in the Dindings and at Jasin in Malacca. The stations will serve for testing varieties, demonstration purposes and as sources of planting material of good quality for distribution.

(b) *School Gardens.*—There are 66 school gardens in Malacca, 19 in Province Wellesley, 10 in Penang, 3 in the Dindings and 7 in Singapore Island. The annual competitions among school gardens in the Settlements of Malacca and of Penang indicate a satisfactory measure of improvement in the standard of these gardens as a result of regular visits by Agricultural Officers.

The number of home gardens made by school boys on their parents' land in both Settlements has increased considerably and in Malacca the example set has in some cases been followed by parents.

(c) *Publications.*—The publications in English issued by the Department of Agriculture have consisted of the monthly numbers of the Malayan Agricultural Journal together with seven special Bulletins. In addition the quarterly journals in Malay and in Chinese have been published regularly and leaflets have been issued in Malay on various subjects.

(d) The Departments of Co-operation and of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya have jointly maintained a Rural Lecture Caravan which carries agricultural exhibits, cinematograph films on co-operation and agricultural subjects, and lantern slides. The caravan visits the villages at each of which lectures in Malay are given on the Agricultural exhibits in the afternoon and on agricultural and co-operative subjects, illustrated or followed by the lantern slides and moving pictures in the evening. The van toured parts of Malacca and also of Penang and Province Wellesley in May and June. Good audiences were attracted and a number of enquiries for selected padi seed resulted.

Conference of Directors of Agriculture.—In July a conference of Colonial Directors of Agriculture was held at the Colonial Office under the Chairmanship of the Agricultural Adviser to the Colonial Office. The Colony was represented thereat by Dr. TEMPANY, the Director of Agriculture.

Opening of School of Agriculture, Malaya.—In May 1931 the School of Agriculture which had been under construction for the past two years was officially opened by the Officer Administering the Government. It is hoped that this institution will in due course exert beneficial influence on native agriculture in Malaya. The school comprises a teaching block with hostel accommodation for 80 students, quarters for the teaching staffs and necessary out buildings. The courses of training include a three year course delivered in English designed to meet requirements of senior students, and a one year course in the vernacular for junior students. They comprise teaching in the elements of science underlying agricultural practice combined with practical training in the agriculture of the more important crops. Areas cultivated by the pupils are attached to the school, while the experimental plantations are also available and are utilised in connection with the teaching. At the end of the year the total number of students at the school was thirty-eight.

(e) METHODS AND CONDITIONS OF RECRUITING SOUTH INDIAN LABOUR

Elaborate machinery exists for the recruitment in normal times of South Indian labour, chiefly for work on rubber, cocoanut and oil palm estates.

The recruiting of labourers in South India is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922 and the Rules made thereunder, and a special General Order of the Government of India defines the conditions on which emigration for the purpose of unskilled work is permitted to the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States and Unfederated Malay States.

There are special provisions in the Indian Act for the recruitment of labour for skilled work, but the recruiting of skilled labour in British India for work in Malaya is practically non-existent.

The foundation of the system of recruiting unskilled South Indian labour is the Indian Immigration Fund. This Fund is composed of contributions from all employers (including the Governments of Malaya) of South Indian labour. It forms no part of the general revenue of the Government and may be used solely in the interests of the importation of Indian labour. Included in these interests are the maintenance of homes for decrepit and unemployed Indian labourers and repatriation of and assistance to Indian labourers in need of relief, and during the past two years the resources of the Fund have been extensively used for these purposes.

From the Fund are paid the general expenses of recruiting, the principal items being train fare of emigrants from their homes to

the ports of Negapatam and Madras and their feeding in the Emigration Camps at these places while awaiting shipment, passages from Madras or Negapatam to the Straits, the expenses of quarantine on arrival at Penang, Port Swettenham or Singapore, transport thence to their places of employment in Malaya and the payment of recruiting allowances to the employers by whose Agents they had been recruited.

These Agents, known as Kanganies, are sent over by individual employers to recruit for their particular places of employment and receive remuneration in the form of commission from these employers. The recruiting allowance paid to the employer is intended to recoup him for this expenditure and other incidental costs not met from the Fund.

The kangany or agent who recruits must fulfil the following conditions before he can obtain a licence:—

- (i) he must be an Indian of the labouring classes.
- (ii) he must have been employed as a labourer on the place of employment for which he intends to recruit for a period of not less than three months.

Licences are issued by the Deputy Controller of Labour in Penang and are endorsed by the Agent of the Government of India. The number of labourers each kangany is authorised to recruit is limited in the first instance to twenty—the maximum commission is limited to Rs. 10 per head for each labourer recruited.

On arrival in India the kangany takes his licence for registration to the office of the Malayan Emigration Commissioner in Madras, an officer of the Malayan Civil Service appointed by the Malayan Government with the approval of the Government of India to supervise emigration to Malaya, or in Negapatam to the office of the Assistant Emigration Commissioner. Only on endorsement by one or other of these officials does the licence become valid. The period of currency of the licence is usually for six months and is limited to one year.

After having his licence registered the kangany proceeds to the office of his employer's financial agents in India. There he obtains a small advance (usually about Rs. 20) and he then proceeds to his own village where he informs his friends and relations of the conditions of labour on his estate.

When the kangany finds people willing to emigrate he must supply them with a copy of the official pamphlet giving information about Malaya and obtain their receipt for it. He must then produce them before the Village Munsiff or Headman whose duty it is to see that there is no valid objection to the person emigrating. If satisfied, the Village Headman initials the entry of the intending emigrant's name on the back of the licence. When the kangany has collected a number of intending emigrants and obtained the necessary authorisation from the Village Headman he takes them to the port of embarkation, *i.e.*, Madras or Negapatam, either himself prepaying the train

fare, which he afterwards recovers, or getting the fares paid by one of the Recruiting Inspectors or Agents (of whom there are fourteen) employed by the Fund.

Before they are permitted to embark all emigrants are inspected by the officials of the Indian Government—the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector.

After the emigrants are shipped, unless he is himself returning to the Colony when he is paid the balance due to him on arrival, the kangany receives his commission less the amount of his advance from the financial agents.

The commission of Rs. 10 is sufficient to cover all legitimate charges and is kept purposely low to prevent the kangany from dealing with professional recruiters.

The recruiting allowance which the employer receives from the Fund has varied from \$3 to \$20 and is at present fixed at \$10. The latter figure is designed to cover all legitimate out of pocket expenses with just sufficient margin to induce employers to recruit up to their own requirements.

Besides the emigrants recruited by kanganies for individual employers any *bona fide* agricultural labourer who is physically fit, on application to the Emigration Commissioner or his Assistant, can obtain a free passage to Malaya at the expense of the Fund, without incurring any obligation to labour for any particular employer on arrival.

The number of these non-recruited emigrants has been steadily increasing. They are for the most part returning emigrants who are proceeding to their old places of employment and as they are not recruited neither kangany's commission nor recruiting allowance is payable.

The Controller of Labour, Malaya, as *ex-officio* Chairman of the Indian Immigration Committee which consists partly of officials and partly of unofficials, administers the Indian Immigration Fund.

All labourers, whether recruited by kanganies or non-recruited, are landed in Malaya free of debt and any labourer may terminate his agreement with his employer by giving one month's notice of his intention to do so. There is no "contract" or indentured labour in the Colony.

There are 98 estates in the Colony owned by Europeans and 203 owned by Asiatics. The number of South Indian labourers (excluding their dependants) on the European owned estates on the 31st December, 1931, was 14,635 and on the Asiatic-owned estates 1,287.

The same procedure applies in regard to recruitment of South Indian labour for the Railways, the Municipalities and the Public Works Departments.

B.—FORESTRY

Except for Singapore Island, where the forests have been depleted as a result of pressure of population, the Straits Settlements are fairly well provided with forests in respect of which a conservative policy is followed. It was decided to abandon, after the close of the year under report, the attempt to continue the protection of the remains of the Singapore forests, which were not considered of sufficient value to justify the expenditure involved. The Singapore forest organisation has been closed down and such saleable material as remains in the forest reserves is being disposed of under the control of the Commissioner of Lands. When this process is complete the reserves, with the exception of one which is to be maintained for purposes of amenity, will be revoked.

There is a fairly large sawmill industry in Singapore which depends mainly on the adjacent islands of Netherlands India as its source of raw material and, in addition to supplying a large part of the needs of the Island, exports sawn timber to a wide range of markets. Considerable supplies of round timber for such purposes as piling are derived from the same islands, but durable hardwoods are chiefly obtained from the mainland of Malaya.

The Settlement of Malacca is well provided with forests, chiefly of the plains type, which promise to constitute a valuable asset when they have been brought under regular management. The forests of Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings are mainly hilly, but contain fair quantities of superior hardwoods and constitute a useful source of local supply.

The forest reserves of the Straits Settlements at present occupy 181 square miles, or 12% of the total area of the Colony. There is no prospect of their further extension, in fact their area will be reduced by the abandonment of the Singapore reserves referred to above.

The present depression is reflected in the statistics for the year. Forest revenue fell to \$53,772 as compared with \$66,860 realized in the previous year, and expenditure was curtailed to \$98,819 as compared with \$125,772 in 1930.

The outturn of timber, firewood and charcoal in cubic feet amounted to 366,637, 1,466,451 and 27,595 as against 489,230, 2,763,179 and 33,355 respectively in the previous year.

The scheme for the conversion of the Malacca forests into regularly managed stands was proceeded with. A similar scheme has been introduced in Penang and Province Wellesley, and one for the Dindings has been brought into operation since the close of the year.

The superior executive staff consisted of only two full-time officers—an Assistant Conservator in charge of Malacca and a Sub-Assistant Conservator in Singapore—and the latter appointment ceased with the closing down of the Singapore organisation at the end of the year. Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings are included in the charges of Assistant or Extra Assistant Conservators of the Federated Malay States staff who are responsible also for

executive work in adjacent areas Perak. Supervisory charge of Singapore was held by the Deputy Director of Forestry, of Malacca by the State Forest Officer, Negri Sembilan, and of the other Settlements by the State Forest Officer, Perak North. The subordinate forest staff of the Straits Settlements consisted of 2 forest rangers, 5 foresters and 41 forest guards.

The Federated Malay States organizations for forest research and education, forest engineering and marketing also serve the needs of the Colony. The main research organization deals with forest botany, ecology, silviculture, wood technology, timber testing and investigation of forest products generally, and a school for training forest subordinates is attached to it. The Forest Engineer is concerned with the improvement of methods of extraction, conversion and transport of timber and other forest produce. The Timber Purchase Section serves as an agency for direct purchase of timber on behalf of Government Departments and others from forest contractors, and assists the latter in marketing their output.

C.—FISHERIES

The total weight of fish landed in a fresh ("wet") condition in the Colony is not less than 18,400 tons. This figure is considered to be a minimal one, as no figures are available concerning the production of the fresh water fisheries, except in a few cases which indicate that the production must be very considerable. Taking into account unreliable and incompleting returns which it has been necessary to discard and landings of fish which escape being recorded, an arbitrary, but safe, estimate is that the landings might be increased by 20% bringing the total up to some 22,000 tons annually.

The landing value of this weight is approximately \$1,855,000. This is based on an average value of approximately \$100 per ton.

The most important kinds of fish landed are horse mackerel, true mackerel, anchovies, herring and herring-like fishes, sea bream (*Caesio*), snapper, threadfins, catfish, prawns, sharks and rays.

There were not less than 13,718 fishermen employed, of whom 6,925 were Malays, 5,483 Chinese, 280 Indians, 950 Japanese and 80 Eurasians. The total number of registered fishing boats was 5,751. Of this total, 57 were power driven and were owned by the Japanese. The rest were sailing boats ranging from junks of 100 feet long to small native craft of 17 feet long, capable of holding two men.

The most important method of fishing is by the use of fishing stakes and traps worked inshore, of almost every type known. Drift netting is the next in importance and is carried on chiefly to capture Spanish mackerel, threadfins and shads. Seine netting, with all its special types of nets, is the third most important method, followed by long lining and diverse methods, such as push netting for prawns, lifting nets, hand lining, sunken cane and wire traps, and crab traps.

For the most part, the industry is financed by Chinese who vary in degree from men with a few hundreds of dollars capital to men with thousands. They furnish money to fishermen of all races to enable them to equip themselves for sea, and the fishermen in return contract to sell the whole of their catch to them at their price. In addition the fishermen usually have to buy all their household and fishing requisites from these middlemen, who live, as a rule, on the spot and run a general store. A few of the fishermen are "free" and do not need to borrow money but they must finally sell their catch to one or other of these dealers, usually at the latter's price.

The fishermen are skilled in the various kinds of fishing and there are few paid hands—the share system being almost universal. The Malays are mostly residents of the Colony but the bulk of the Chinese fishermen come as immigrants and return to China when they have earned a sufficiency.

The Japanese land something like 5,000 tons or 45% of the fish landed in Singapore, which they capture round the islands, mostly in Netherlands India. They are increasing and 950 men are employed to-day.

The net weight of fish exported—that is the balance of exports over imports—amounts to about 4,500 tons of salt fish. This as fresh fish would be about 9,000 tons, and mostly consists of horse and true mackerel and herring-like fishes from Trengganu, Kedah, Pahang and other places in the Federated Malay States.

D.—MINERALS

Tin.—Mining operations in the Colony are confined to the Settlement of Malacca where there were three places at which tin was worked sporadically during the year. The production of tin ore amounted to about 20 tons, on which royalty amounting to \$2,054 was paid. The whole of the production went to Singapore for sale.

The labourers are all Chinese and no Europeans are engaged in the industry, though one prospecting licence was issued to a European in the course of the year.

Tin smelter production amounted to 87,514 tons, the tin ore coming approximately two thirds from the Malay States, and the remaining one third from a wide range of countries, including Alaska, South Africa, Japan, Siam, Indo-China and Netherlands India.

Phosphates.—The extensive deposits of phosphate of lime on Christmas Island are worked by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. The production in 1931 was 65,849 tons valued at \$1,119,433, all of which was exported to Japan.

Practically the whole of the labour force consists of Chinese specially recruited in Singapore by the Company for work on the island.

CHAPTER VII

Commerce

The trade of Malaya*, including bullion and specie, amounted in 1931 to \$885 millions, as compared with \$1,384 millions in 1930, a decrease of 36.1%. Of this, \$790 millions represented the direct trade of the Straits Settlements as compared with \$1,209 in 1930, a fall of \$419 millions or 34.7%. Imports into the Straits Settlements amounted to \$410 millions and exports to \$380 millions. Of the Malayan trade, so far as merchandise is concerned, \$107 millions or 12.6% was with the United Kingdom, \$123 millions or 14.4% with British Possessions, and and \$622 millions or 73% with Foreign Countries. The principal trade, in values, was with the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Netherlands India, Siam, India and China.

Of the principal imports of merchandise, the first in value was motor spirit \$68 millions, followed by rice \$48 millions, tin ore \$30 millions, rubber \$19 millions, cotton piece goods \$14 millions, and cigarettes \$13 millions, (*see* Table VI).

Of the principal exports (including re-exports), the first was rubber \$118 millions, followed by tin \$83 millions, motor spirit \$54 millions, copra \$16 millions and rice \$13 millions, (*see* Table VII).

Rubber.—The quantity of rubber imports amounted to 125,431 tons valued at \$18,881,000, as compared with 135,862 tons in 1930 valued at \$42,038,000 in 1930, a decrease of 10,431 tons, or 7.7% in gross value. Imports were principally from Netherlands India, Sarawak, Siam, Indo-China, North Borneo and Burma. Exports of rubber, (including latex) decreased from 557 to 519 thousand tons, and in value from \$241,797,000 to \$118,340,000, exports being principally to the United States of America 66%, the United Kingdom 14%, the Continent of Europe 11%, Japan 7%, British Possessions 1% and 1% to other countries. Exports of latex decreased from 315,486 gallons, valued at \$861,000 in 1930 to 741,363 gallons valued at \$403,000 in 1931.

Tin.—Imports of tin-ore decreased from 47.2 to 43.6 thousand tons, and in value from \$41 to \$30 millions, imports being principally from Netherlands India. Exports of tin decreased from 97 to 83 thousand tons, values declining from \$124 to \$83 millions, being principally to the United States of America, the Continent of Europe, and the United Kingdom.

Cotton Piece Goods.—Imports of cotton piece goods decreased from 118 to 100 million yards, and in value from \$21 to 14 millions. Exports fell from 33 to 31 million yards and in value from \$6,342,000 to \$4,597,000.

Pineapples.—Exports of canned pineapples increased from 57,959 to 59,457 tons, decreasing however in value from \$7,859,000 to \$7,083,000.

Other Articles.—Other principal imports and exports are indicated in Tables VI and VII, all of which show decreases in quantities and gross values.

* The foreign trade of the Straits Settlements is not separately recorded

The following Tables show different aspects of Malayan foreign trade during the last five years:—

- I. Distribution of trade between States and Settlements, 1927—1931;
- II. Distribution of trade in Merchandise, bullion and specie by the principal country groups during the year 1931;
- III. Changes of imports and exports of merchandise in 1931 as compared with 1930;
- IV. Division of trade, including bullion and specie, between the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Protectorates, and Foreign Countries;
- V. Values of imports and exports of merchandise between Malaya and principal countries for each year, 1927—1931;
- VI. Principal imports: quantities and values, 1927—1931;
- VII. Principal exports: quantities and values, 1927—1931;
- VIII. Bullion and specie: imports and exports, 1927—1931;
- IX. Coal: imports and exports, by countries, and bunker coal shipped on steamers for use in foreign trade, 1927—1931;
- X. Cotton piece goods: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XI. Kerosene: imports and exports, by countries 1927—1931;
- XII. Liquid fuel: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XIII. Lubricating Oil: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XIV. Motor Spirit: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XV. Motor Cars: imports and exports, distinguishing passenger and commercial vehicles, 1927—1931;
- XVI. Rice: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XVII. Rubber: imports and exports, by countries, 1927—1931;
- XVIII. Tin Ore and Tin: imports of tin-ore and exports of tin, by countries, 1927—1931.

TABLE I
DISTRIBUTION OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF MALAYA,
INCLUDING BULLION AND SPECIE, BETWEEN
STATES AND SETTLEMENTS
(In millions of Dollars)

		Singapore	Penang	Malacca	F. M. S.	U. M. S.	Total
1931—							
Imports ...	...	334 -	71 +	5 +	45 -	2 +	457
Exports ...	...	268 +	100 -	2 +	40 +	8 +	428
Total Trade ...	...	602	171	17	85	10	885
1930—							
Imports ...	...	528 -	107 -	6 -	72 +	3 -	716
Exports ...	...	406 -	140 +	22 -	85 +	15 +	668
Total Trade ...	...	934	247	28	157	18	1,384
1929—							
Imports ...	...	655 -	154 +	5 +	80 -	3 +	898
Exports ...	...	517 -	202 +	34 +	157 -	17 +	927
Total Trade ...	...	1,171	357	40	236	21	1,825
1928—							
Imports ...	...	648 -	143 -	5 -	81 -	3 -	879
Exports ...	...	518 -	197 +	23 -	100 +	11 -	848
Total Trade ...	...	1,165	340	28	181	13	1,727
1927—							
Imports ...	...	780 -	161 +	4 -	68 -	4 +	1,017
Exports ...	...	649 +	220 +	38 -	143 +	15 -	1,065
Total Trade ...	...	1,429	382	41	211	19	2,082

Note.—The figures are those compiled by the Divisional Registries and exclude transshipment trade at the ports. Malay States produce consigned to dealers in the Colony and exported by them, appears as Colony trade. The trade of the Malay States is direct trade, either *via* Port Swettenham or *via* Shipping Agents (as distinct from dealers) at Colony ports. The trade returns of the Malay States will indicate what proportion of Colony foreign trade was in Malay States produce.

TABLE II

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE IN MERCHANDISE BULLION AND SPECIE BY THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRY GROUPS DURING THE YEAR 1931

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

	United Kingdom	British Possessions	Continent of Europe	United States of America	Japan	Other Countries	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total value of Imports of Merchandise excluding Parcel Post ...	62,131,255	69,907,832	25,465,080	11,501,549	17,897,945	266,027,051	452,930,812

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

Total value of Exports of Merchandise excluding Parcel Post ...	45,087,609	53,251,809	45,906,918	132,091,386	48,608,916	74,802,984	399,749,622
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IMPORTS OF BULLION AND SPECIE

Bullion and Specie ...	395,257	1,704,003	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,169,252	4,268,512
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EXPORTS OF BULLION AND SPECIE

Bullion and Specie ...	19,705,731	1,007,382	1,304,062	1,912,792	Nil	4,452,835	28,382,802
GRAND TOTAL ...	127,319,952	125,871,026	72,676,060	145,505,727	66,506,861	347,452,122	885,331,748

TABLE III

 CHANGES OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE
 IN 1931, AS COMPARED WITH 1930

(In millions of Dollars)

—	Imports	Reason	Exports	Reason
	\$		\$	
Class I (Animals, Food, Drink and Tobacco) ...	- 95	{ Reduction in total values of Arecanuts, Cigarettes, Fish Dried and Salted, Milk, Rice, Rice Meal, Tobacco Manufactured and Wheat Flour, etc.	- 26	{ Reduction in total values of Arecanuts, Cigarettes, Fish Dried and Salted, Milk, Pepper, Pine-apples, Rice, Sago, Sugar, etc.
Class II (Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Un-manufactured) ...	- 47	{ Reduction in total values of Coal, Copra, Para Rubber and Tin Ore, etc.	- 136	{ Reduction in total values of Copra, Coconut Oil, Iron Ore, Para Rubber, Rattans, Sticklac, etc.
Class III (Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured) ...	- 110	{ Reduction in total values of Cotton piece goods, Cotton Sarongs, Kerosene, Liquid Fuel, Machinery, Motor Cars Passenger and Motor Spirit, etc.	- 78	{ Reduction in total values of Cotton piece goods, Kerosene, Motor Spirit, Sarongs, Tin, Iron and Steel Manufactures, etc.
Total Merchandise	- 252		- 240	

TABLE IV
DIVISION OF TRADE BETWEEN UNITED KINGDOM,
BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES
(In millions of Dollars)

IMPORTS

Countries	Class I	Class II	Class III	Total Merchandise	Bullion and Specie	Grand Total
1931—						
United Kingdom	16	1	45	62	...	62
British Possessions and Protectorates	39	9	22	70	2	72
Foreign Countries	98	68	155	321	2	323
Total ...	153	78	222	453	4	457
1930 —						
United Kingdom	27	1	70	98	...	98
British Possessions and Protectorates	66	15	42	123	8	131
Foreign Countries	156	109	220	485	2	487
Total ...	249	125	332	706	10	716

EXPORTS

Countries	Class I	Class II	Class III	Total Merchandise	Bullion and Specie	Grand Total
1931—						
United Kingdom	10	22	13	45	20	65
British Possessions and Protectorates	17	5	31	53	1	54
Foreign Countries	38	126	138	302	7	309
Total ...	65	153	182	400	28	428
1930—						
United Kingdom	11	56	14	81	5	86
British Possessions and Protectorates	28	7	68	103	6	109
Foreign Countries	58	229	184	471	2	473
Total ...	97	292	266	655	13	668

TABLE V
VALUES OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BETWEEN MALAYA AND PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1927—1931
(In thousands of Dollars)

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
United Kingdom ...	\$ 132,538	\$ 158,633	\$ 138,896	\$ 98,246	\$ 143,002	\$ 132,997	\$ 97,510	\$ 80,396	\$ 62,131	\$ 45,088
British Possessions and Protectorates	194,341	125,270	168,291	108,302	163,113	104,611	122,711	103,074	69,908	53,252
Continent of Europe ...	59,718	113,793	56,596	100,400	69,372	119,799	41,941	95,196	25,465	45,907
United States of America	31,776	466,998	27,566	353,371	31,822	393,207	23,377	226,864	11,502	132,091
Japan ...	30,214	36,821	20,147	32,183	23,189	36,667	24,937	40,213	17,898	48,609
Other Countries ...	541,716	156,354	448,333	149,067	449,727	134,511	395,120	108,860	266,027	74,803
Total ...	990,303	1,057,869	859,829	841,569	880,225	921,792	705,596	654,603	452,931	399,750

TABLE VI
PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED 1927—1931

Articles	How Stated	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
			(000's) \$		(000's) \$		(000's) \$		(000's) \$		(000's) \$
Areanuts	...	32,110	5,876	45,185	6,981	47,646	8,198	42,543	6,246	38,776	4,160
Cigarettes	...	11,383,420	26,334	11,131,284	26,636	11,368,117	27,443	8,706,291	21,933	5,328,834	12,678
Coal	...	876,248	10,971	811,929	9,766	830,483	9,614	685,435	7,039	550,073	4,878
Copra	...	56,393	10,016	87,763	15,418	85,940	13,226	89,374	10,908	87,026	6,731
Cotton Piece Goods	...	154,958,482	37,154	125,699,332	29,846	166,506,593	38,562	117,988,240	20,706	99,925,633	13,691
Fish, Dried and Salted	...	52,573	15,421	50,995	13,966	47,104	13,174	46,341	11,752	43,705	7,634
Machinery	22,900	...	27,578	...	21,559	...	13,637	...	7,421
Milk, Condensed and Sterilized	...	1,283,771	15,141	1,368,091	15,491	1,548,726	15,896	1,315,858	12,747	1,022,368	9,945
Motor Spirit (Benzine)	...	269,319	65,426	290,886	55,310	280,485	53,937	546,771	103,304	354,982	68,186
Para Rubber	...	182,842	171,456	149,787	88,218	161,594	81,285	135,862	42,038	125,431	18,881
Pepper	...	11,914	15,028	12,708	16,378	13,959	18,087	14,086	8,286	13,567	6,202
Petroleum (Kerosene)	...	134,985	18,950	147,074	15,640	153,819	17,386	158,410	16,906	103,048	12,107
Rattans	...	20,786	3,990	20,771	3,722	18,354	3,018	17,987	2,297	15,563	1,427
Rice	...	839,959	104,355	803,914	95,473	785,556	95,461	800,444	87,667	691,110	48,458
Sago	...	40,613	3,637	37,674	2,694	38,412	2,486	51,629	2,835	44,165	1,682
Sarongs (Cotton)	...	10,673,439	14,148	9,617,809	12,847	10,165,086	13,219	6,101,669	7,627	5,157,200	4,617
Sugar	...	110,683	15,367	111,731	12,905	114,481	12,316	112,901	9,465	100,316	7,301
Tin Ore	...	42,254	73,362	44,389	66,950	48,785	62,814	47,167	40,745	43,563	30,149

TABLE VII
PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED 1927-1931

Articles	How Stated	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
		(000's)	\$	(000's)	\$	(000's)	\$	(000's)	\$	(000's)	\$
Arecanuts ...	Tons	49,873	10,299	69,303	12,196	72,118	14,411	65,799	11,394	58,042	6,964
Benzine (Motor Spirit) ...	"	202,397	48,824	184,310	34,937	194,255	36,516	443,332	83,211	282,420	54,070
Copra ...	"	143,042	26,578	182,854	34,165	198,638	32,925	191,704	26,243	187,835	16,408
Cotton Piece Goods ...	Yards	51,325,767	12,417	40,365,005	9,855	40,027,329	9,335	32,906,868	6,342	30,591,038	4,597
Cigarettes ...	lbs.	4,180,588	8,422	3,927,356	7,886	3,633,718	7,281	2,603,331	4,917	1,825,287	2,411
Fish, Dried and Salted ...	Tons	57,423	14,293	57,521	14,458	54,690	13,990	53,138	12,372	48,202	9,474
Milk, Condensed and Steri- lized ...	Cases	218,028	2,678	209,568	2,503	214,330	2,226	155,810	1,501	115,733	1,148
Pepper ...	Tons	13,515	16,762	13,506	18,413	12,877	17,656	13,714	9,012	12,192	5,918
Petroleum (Kerosene) ...	"	92,005	12,481	111,243	11,974	99,716	10,465	118,868	12,759	69,603	7,794
Para Rubber ...	"	371,307	519,465	408,693	329,790	577,202	432,644	554,394	240,225	517,665	117,862
Preserved Pineapples ...	"	40,134	8,297	46,400	8,421	58,692	9,234	57,959	7,859	59,457	7,083
Rubber Latex ...	Gallons	1,560,976	3,523	919,909	1,297	1,708,529	1,910	815,486	861	741,363	403
Rice ...	Tons	290,717	35,521	276,581	32,304	230,317	27,550	206,597	23,112	174,278	13,338
Rattans ...	"	15,959	4,321	16,432	4,335	15,227	3,820	12,684	2,714	11,090	2,001
Sago ...	"	44,278	4,663	44,201	3,991	46,758	3,742	55,031	3,943	49,298	2,483
Sarongs ...	Nos.	6,059,440	7,747	5,190,201	6,549	4,424,234	5,690	2,871,133	3,534	2,308,905	2,315
Sugar ...	Tons	17,322	2,417	19,529	2,421	13,868	1,545	12,506	1,132	10,910	794
Tin ...	"	83,773	206,571	99,052	191,279	102,024	182,129	97,214	123,772	83,704	83,478

TABLE VIII
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF BULLION AND SPECIE FOR THE YEARS 1927—1931
(In thousands of Dollars)

Description	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931			
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports		
Gold Bullion	11,195	3,542	6,643	4,275	7,719	3,391	3,695	10,837	1,285	24,749
" Specie	15,413	2,480	8,736	1,979	8,793	1,760	4,053	1,566	1,022	546
Silver Bullion	504	316	613	494	714	441	1,126	543	1,227	1,171
" Specie	119	429	2,869	214	157	96	959	604	731	889
Copper coin	20	197	2	...	12	1	8	3	3	151
Nickel coin	2	...	...	...	...	877
Total	27,251	6,964	18,863	6,962	17,397	5,689	9,841	13,553	4,268	28,383

TABLE IX

IMPORTS OF COAL, IN THOUSANDS OF TONS, FOR THE YEARS
1927—1931, DISTINGUISHING SOURCES OF SUPPLY

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
...
United Kingdom ...	60	56	92	43	20
Australia and New Zealand ...	28	19	7	11	14
British India and Burma ...	139	76	70	32	28
Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei ...	...	...	...	...	2
Union of South Africa ...	182	235	183	162	92
Japan ...	200	147	226	204	176
French Indo-China ...	1	5	2	25	8
China ...	9	17	4	8	13
Dutch Borneo ...	174	168	155	113	71
Sumatra ...	48	53	90	87	126
Other Places ...	35	35	1	1	...
Total (thousands of Tons) ...	876	811	830	686	550

Bunker Coal shipped on board for the use of steamers
engaged in the Foreign Trade—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>\$</i>
...	—	—
1927 ...	529,997	8,235,833
1928 ...	571,433	8,840,372
1929 ...	563,066	8,645,011
1930 ...	436,958	6,325,493
1931 ...	363,578	4,681,238

EXPORTS OF COAL FOR THE YEARS 1927—1931

—	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Total Number of Tons ...	4,728	2,540	2,148	5,474	4,223
Value in \$	58,848	32,078	27,267	66,769	40,922

TABLE X

IMPORTS OF COTTON PIECE GOODS DURING THE YEARS
1927—1931

Country from which imported			1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
			Yards	Yards	Yards	Yards	Yards
United Kingdom	...	...	80,881,885	65,867,796	86,012,340	32,097,685	21,576,854
British India and Burma	...	...	4,174,341	3,400,374	4,102,648	2,365,156	1,507,626
Hong Kong	...	...	6,173,836	6,661,461	6,619,096	4,827,256	4,594,996
Italy	...	...	5,286,813	4,398,404	6,495,401	2,248,434	1,553,473
Netherlands	...	...	3,855,791	3,483,050	4,761,259	3,378,595	2,951,039
Switzerland	...	...	443,791	1,512,795	1,685,982	380,208	568,121
United States of America	...	...	1,021,143	1,147,393	1,630,998	1,362,539	718,385
China	...	...	14,167,044	13,877,478	18,128,000	13,997,488	15,628,355
Japan	...	...	35,607,466	23,098,804	34,722,075	56,337,403	49,797,726
Other Countries	...	...	3,346,370	2,251,777	2,348,794	993,476	1,029,058
Total Yards			154,958,480	125,699,332	166,506,593	117,988,240	99,925,633
Value \$			37,154,034	29,846,460	38,561,671	20,705,813	13,690,685

EXPORTS OF COTTON PIECE GOODS DURING THE YEARS
1927—1931

Country to which exported			1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
			Yards	Yards	Yards	Yards	Yards
North Borneo	...	...	2,488,169	2,421,832	2,493,198	1,655,369	1,058,294
Sarawak	...	...	2,741,970	2,382,731	2,718,731	1,720,466	1,589,982
Other British Possessions	...	...	712,177	930,290	925,867	889,779	899,505
Netherlands India	...	...	27,352,341	22,585,337	24,805,350	22,742,435	20,324,747
Siam	...	...	17,000,454	11,185,029	8,326,475	4,939,882	5,937,497
Other Foreign Countries	...	...	1,030,656	859,786	757,708	958,937	781,013
Total Yards			51,325,767	40,365,005	40,027,329	32,906,868	30,591,038
Value \$			12,417,371	9,854,861	9,335,448	6,342,458	4,597,296

TABLE XI

IMPORTS OF KEROSENE, DISTINGUISHING SOURCES OF SUPPLY,
DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Dutch Borneo	29,236	22,218	26,095	30,373	9,818
Sumatra	45,758	63,878	65,018	77,325	73,901
United States of America	10,136	12,950	16,137	662	358
Sarawak	49,733	40,797	42,525	42,840	18,609
Other Countries	121	7,231	4,044	7,210	362
Total Tons	134,984	147,074	153,819	158,410	103,048
Value \$	18,949,734	15,639,681	17,386,348	16,905,809	12,107,048

EXPORTS OF KEROSENE DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country to which exported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
North Borneo	1,001	911	1,135	634	623
Sarawak	5,034	2,663	3,133	2,390	4,843
British India and Burma	6,792	7,104	10,313	2,357	644
Ceylon	2,456	774	5,949	9,876	6,006
Hongkong	1,063	3,601	2,013	3,207	...
Australia	34,264	43,248	34,911	41,863	8,363
New Zealand	1,942	2,101	3,818	2,740	1,977
Union of South Africa	516	3,063	3,310	2,169	1,484
Other British Possessions	4,026	3,985	5,989	8,031	3,372
China	2,921	13,881	...	5,421	...
French Indo-China	6,206	8,658	4,573	2,931	2,871
Japan	3,356	1,430	2,252	7,514	16,223
Netherlands India	6,540	3,885	4,844	6,982	6,494
Siam	15,176	15,107	16,645	21,017	14,699
Other Foreign Countries	712	832	831	1,736	2,004
Total Tons	92,005	111,243	99,716	118,868	69,603
Value \$	12,481,125	11,974,440	10,464,876	12,759,094	7,793,577

TABLE XII

IMPORTS OF LIQUID FUEL DISTINGUISHING SOURCES OF SUPPLY
DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Sarawak	44,320	4,727	29,493	38,766	23,238
United States of America ...	32,582	7,340	17	...	8,086
Egypt ... ..	...	...	4,189	...	...
Dutch Borneo	280,775	379,601	368,829	365,998	309,616
Sumatra	98,603	114,134	133,952	228,974	166,221
Other Countries	18,741	19,056	10,079	5	...
Total Tons ...	475,021	524,858	546,559	633,743	507,161
Value \$	18,983,567	21,045,744	22,220,705	25,616,181	19,755,678

EXPORTS OF LIQUID FUEL DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country to which exported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
British India and Burma ...	6,653	3,979	4,028	4,051	2,481
Ceylon ... ..	...	14	4,593	13	25
Australia	473	647	1,492	1,465	782
Other British Possessions ...	6,099	1,216	1,289	18,812	5,650
Egypt	14,064	16,539	22,868	14,745	10,285
China	134	57	2,208	3,721	1,644
French Indo-China	3,183	5,959	6,985	7,544	9,311
Netherlands India	13,179	15,383	13,997	19,660	32,360
Siam	11,518	18,162	26,632	26,528	31,176
Other Foreign Countries ...	70	353	1,201	994	9,960
Total Tons ...	55,373	62,309	85,293	97,533	103,674
Value \$	2,287,277	2,682,191	3,639,186	3,979,759	4,178,074

TABLE XIII

 IMPORTS OF LUBRICATING OIL DISTINGUISHING SOURCES OF
SUPPLY, DURING THE YEARS, 1927—1931

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons
United Kingdom ...	250,833	290,485	395,894	271,022	340,979
British India and Burma ...	99,832	66,454	66,636	54,427	59,558
Hong Kong ...	37,160	20,707	17,246	2,256	1,808
United States of America ...	1,590,329	2,022,626	2,437,355	1,546,867	1,287,856
Netherlands India :—					
Dutch Borneo ...	3,449,232	2,916,084	2,722,958	1,224,241	865,122
Java ...	70,821	87,045	2,019	5,448	4,004
Sumatra ...	388,420	246,853	409,171	931,568	385,641
Other Countries ...	39,063	32,904	39,316	47,381	20,239
Total Gallons ...	5,925,690	5,683,158	6,090,910	4,083,634	2,965,207
Value \$	5,147,210	4,528,238	5,182,673	3,711,114	2,553,518

 EXPORTS OF LUBRICATING OIL DURING THE YEARS
1927—1931

Country to which exported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons
British North Borneo ...	16,954	18,994	20,369	18,777	16,578
Sarawak ...	135,836	99,507	105,381	77,432	79,523
British India & Burma ...	208,026	75,275	24,000	18,806	20,776
Ceylon ...	39,666	48,069	34,705	10,954	4,908
Australia ...	63,644	33,788	25,632	13,674	3,180
Hongkong ...	9,335	14,247	8,706	8,371	31,800
Mauritius ...	2,352	22,322	4,700	16,316	20,930
Union of South Africa ...	63,640	51,464	45,411	33,994	27,972
Other British Possessions ...	9,440	17,246	26,110	16,758	10,084
China ...	79,510	36,548	79,024	26,134	3,647
French Indo-China ...	109,937	139,598	146,330	6,596	2,803
Netherlands India ...	964,800	490,712	390,011	282,235	202,155
Philippines and Sulu ...	4,561	12,921	5,062	7,873	5,391
Siam ...	415,353	467,053	518,075	358,361	297,351
Other Foreign Countries ...	1,190	25,848	30,614	44,931	20,012
Total Gallons ...	2,124,744	1,553,592	1,467,130	941,212	747,110
Value \$	1,632,387	1,200,397	1,187,159	795,136	617,962

TABLE XIV
IMPORTS OF MOTOR SPIRIT, DISTINGUISHING SOURCES OF
SUPPLY, DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Sarawak	47,542	83,146	57,560	38,338	2,095
United States of America ...	5,217	542	407	6,464	24
Dutch Borneo	57,944	30,083	36,612	65,229	83,947
Java ... ..	...	8,208	5,655	4,515	14,330
Sumatra	158,477	168,905	179,737	430,803	254,545
Other Countries	139	2	514	1,422	41
Total Tons ...	269,319	290,886	280,485	546,771	354,982
Value \$	65,426,497	55,310,235	53,936,681	103,304,145	68,186,002

EXPORTS OF MOTOR SPIRIT DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

Country to which exported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Ceylon	3,507	4,312	4,577	18,586	2,276
Australia	88,275	82,001	74,839	82,489	52,129
New Zealand	17,996	5,697	6,751	3,562	...
Union of South Africa ...	9,155	17,393	20,797	58,192	25,735
Other British Possessions ...	40,135	39,447	30,368	77,705	6,325
France ... ..	...	...	4,165	8,031	...
Italy ... ..	...	...	6,849	33,833	690
Netherlands ... ..	...	...	...	5,164	...
French Indo-China	8,198	8,951	1,343	...	...
Egypt ... ..	...	...	11,421	11,567	7,838
China ... ..	...	...	1,370	9,645	3,131
Japan	44	6,501	17,534	104,290	168,158
Argentine Republic ... ..	...	...	7,840	...	...
Netherlands India	28,559	14,313	2,867	18,357	6,229
Siam	6,507	5,695	2,999	7,848	7,364
Other Foreign Countries ...	21	...	535	4,063	2,545
Total Tons ...	202,397	184,310	194,255	443,332	282,420
Value \$	48,824,016	34,936,867	36,516,372	83,210,520	54,070,290

TABLE XV

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MOTOR CARS DURING
THE YEARS 1927—1931

—	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Pas- senger	Com- mercial	Pas- senger	Com- mercial	Pas- senger	Com- mercial	Pas- senger	Com- mercial	Pas- senger	Com- mercial
Imports ...	6,196	1,857	4,291	1,438	5,751	1,658	3,540	1,187	1,611	502
Exports ...	572	117	568	98	453	79	505	211	595	195
Consumption ...	5,624	1,740	3,723	1,340	5,298	1,579	3,035	976	1,016	307

TABLE XVI

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF RICE DURING THE YEARS 1927—1931

A. IMPORTS

Country from which imported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
British India & Burma	218,362	209,647	266,799	342,820	303,393
French Indo-China ...	69,506	78,400	103,603	81,776	41,501
Siam ...	549,866	513,718	414,193	374,491	343,919
Other Countries ...	2,225	2,149	961	1,357	2,297
Total Tons ...	839,959	803,914	785,556	800,444	691,110
Value \$	104,354,775	95,472,838	95,461,036	87,666,723	48,458,102

B. EXPORTS

Country to which exported	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
British North Borneo	12,047	12,232	9,810	7,186	5,807
Sarawak ...	19,972	18,692	15,174	18,638	15,449
British India & Burma	17,106	13,960	696	505	279
Ceylon ...	37,631	16,250	4,413	1,080	505
Other British Posses- sions ...	1,021	1,341	5,707	4,458	1,281
Netherlands India ...	198,746	211,519	191,887	172,337	149,628
Other Foreign Countries	4,194	2,587	2,630	2,393	1,329
Total Tons ...	290,717	276,581	230,317	206,597	174,278
Value \$	35,520,679	32,304,089	27,549,657	23,112,176	13,337,943

TABLE XVII
IMPORTS OF PARA RUBBER IN THE YEARS 1927—1931

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$
British North Borneo and Sarawak	13,869	18,373	12,995	10,133	14,098	9,876	13,045	5,197	12,975	2,593
Burma ...	2,625	3,505	2,053	1,816	2,543	1,821	2,193	1,007	2,237	480
Netherlands India ...	157,837	139,286	126,403	69,941	131,732	62,895	108,830	31,470	101,420	14,151
French Indo-China ...	2,249	3,204	2,893	2,574	4,393	3,225	5,361	2,162	3,764	772
Siam ...	5,471	6,026	4,818	3,269	5,024	2,916	5,461	1,819	4,146	698
Other Countries ...	791	1,062	625	485	804	552	972	383	889	187
Total ...	182,842	171,456	149,787	88,218	161,594	81,285	135,862	42,038	125,431	18,881

TABLE XVII Continued
 EXPORTS OF PARA RUBBER AND LATEX IN THE YEARS 1927-1931

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$
United Kingdom ...	76,399	111,234	60,996	50,311	106,234	82,197	118,178	52,044	74,365	17,818
United States of America ...	241,351	333,456	284,199	229,721	367,771	271,947	331,317	144,607	340,951	76,683
Continent of Europe ...	26,375	36,813	29,380	22,740	60,549	46,111	69,835	29,751	54,943	12,758
British Possessions ...	7,389	10,616	7,259	5,882	11,525	8,986	5,534	2,337	7,866	1,823
Japan ...	19,622	27,043	26,380	20,623	29,934	22,411	28,029	10,815	32,529	7,151
Other Countries ...	171	303	479	512	1,189	992	1,501	671	7,011	1,635
Total ...	371,307	519,465	408,693	329,789	577,202	432,644	554,394	240,225	517,665	117,868
Latex (including Concentrated Latex and Revertex) ...	2,629	3,807	2,245	1,973	3,574	2,681	2,928	1,572	1,925	472
Total ...	373,936	523,272	410,938	331,762	580,776	435,325	557,322	241,797	519,590	118,340

TABLE XVIII

IMPORTS OF TIN-ORE AND EXPORTS OF TIN, 1927—1931

IMPORTS OF TIN-ORE

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$
Burma ...	2,226	3,614	2,307	3,033	2,321	2,806	1,974	1,641	2,104	1,512
Union of South Africa ...	1,808	2,911	1,839	2,225	1,651	1,777	1,032	767	578	351
Netherlands India ...	27,157	48,684	28,798	46,652	29,963	40,191	26,943	24,060	20,987	14,957
Siam ...	10,335	17,131	10,465	14,099	13,807	17,078	15,628	13,401	17,378	12,111
Other Countries ...	728	1,022	980	941	1,043	962	1,590	876	2,516	1,217
Total ...	42,254	73,362	44,389	66,950	48,785	62,814	47,167	40,745	43,563	30,148

EXPORTS OF TIN

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$		Thousands \$
United Kingdom ...	9,453	22,986	12,908	24,843	15,392	27,159	9,398	12,768	11,508	11,796
United States of America ...	46,370	114,812	56,984	109,929	57,695	103,456	57,894	72,526	49,293	48,701
Continent of Europe ...	19,771	48,498	19,769	38,360	20,622	36,679	22,361	28,875	16,128	16,028
British Possessions ...	4,968	12,347	5,311	10,297	4,998	8,937	4,929	6,198	4,544	4,661
Japan ...	1,922	4,744	2,401	4,617	2,045	3,631	1,552	1,939	1,979	2,034
Other Countries ...	1,289	3,184	1,679	3,233	1,272	2,267	1,080	1,466	252	258
Total ...	83,773	206,571	99,032	191,270	102,024	188,128	102,024	188,128	102,024	188,128

CHAPTER VIII

Wages and the Cost of Living

A.—WAGES

Standard rates of wages for South Indian labourers are prescribed by law in certain key districts over Malaya and these rates tend in practice to regulate the rate of wages earned in other districts and by labourers of other races.

In the Colony the only key district in which standard wages were in force was Province Wellesley where the prescribed rates during the year were 40 cents a day for an able-bodied adult male labourer and 32 cents for an able-bodied adult female.

The rates for the greater part of 1930 were 50 cents a day for an adult male and 40 cents a day for an adult female. In comparison, the retail price of No. 2 Siam Rice in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, fell from 50, 52 and 50 cents per gantang respectively to 32, 35 and 31 cents per gantang.

In the Island of Penang and in the Dindings daily rates varying from 35 to 40 cents for a male labourer and from 27 to 32 cents for a female labourer were paid. The labour forces on Province Wellesley Estates are very settled. On the older estates which have had Tamil labour for a long time many of the labourers have been born on the estates and frequently are not entirely dependent on their check-roll wages.

In Singapore the daily rates of wages on estates ranged from 35 to 40 cents for an able-bodied adult Indian male labourer and 32 to 35 cents for an able-bodied adult Indian female labourer. Many employers paid their tappers by results. The rates of wages paid to Chinese and Javanese labourers were about the same as those paid to Indians. Government Departments paid from 47 to 64 cents and miscellaneous employers from 50 to 85 cents.

In Malacca, able-bodied Indian adult male labourers on estates earned 35 cents and able-bodied adult female labourers 27 cents per diem. Store and factory labourers received 40 to 50 cents. In the Government Departments the rates of wages were from 40 cents for males, and 32 cents for females. Chinese were mostly employed on contract at rates varying from 35 to 45 cents per diem. Free Javanese and Malays earned as much as South Indians.

The law requires every employer to provide at least 24 days work in each month to every labourer employed.

Workmen employed in skilled trades naturally commanded much higher rates of wages.

B.—AVERAGE PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

Average wholesale prices of principal articles quoted locally continued to show, as in the previous year, a general downward tendency. Exceptions were Gambier, Kerosine, Gum Copal (Scraped) and Gum Benjamin. Prices of articles regarded as Straits produce, quoted by the London Chamber of Commerce, also

showed a downward tendency. The average price of rubber over the year, as compared with the average price for the previous year, decreased in London from 5.86 to 3.14 pence, in New York from 11.79 to 6.09 cents, and in Singapore from 19 to 9.78 cents per lb., representing a mean fall of about 48%.

The average market prices of 15 principal commodities (13 wholesale and 2 retail) published in the monthly trade returns show a decline of 26.3% as compared with 1930. The prices of all commodities except pineapples show a decline. The Table on pages 54 and 55 shows particulars.

There was a contraction of 15 millions or 18.3% in the value of Straits Settlements notes in circulation as compared with the fall in average commodity prices of 26.3%.

The index number of market prices declined in Singapore from 144 to 122 or by 15.3%, in Penang from 167 to 122 or by 26.9%, and in Malacca from 167 to 118 or by 29.3%, as compared with 100 in 1914. The previous market divergence in the indices of Penang and Malacca, as compared with Singapore, over approximately the same range of commodities, was thus reduced, so that they are now almost similar, namely, 122, 122 and 118, respectively. The index number in the General Table of the Food Budget, based on Singapore Market Prices, was 102 as compared with 126 in 1930 and 100 in 1914.

Municipal assessment values for 1932, indicating rent movements during 1931, showed in Singapore a decrease of 12.9%, in Penang a decrease of 11.3%, and in Malacca a decrease of 7.9% at the end of 1931 as compared with 1930. This is the first year in which a decrease is shown for Malacca.

There was a decline in general wage rates throughout the year in sympathy with the fall in gold values.

There was a decline in the general cost of living during the year of 15.3% in the case of Asiatics, 11.1% in the case of Eurasians and 6.5% in the case of Europeans, as indicated in the Tables on pages 56 and 57.

The following is an analysis of movements during the year in respect of Singapore:—

- (i) *Food*.—A general decline throughout the year till November when there was a slight rise due probably to the depreciation of the dollar, followed by a fall in December.
- (ii) *Liquors, Aerated Waters and Tobacco*.—Liquors: a slight fall in January, due to trade causes, and a rise in September due partly to increased import duties and partly to dollar depreciation. Tobacco: in spite of an increase of duty, no appreciable change in price. Aerated waters: no change. The total effect is an increase of 5.7% at the end of the year.

- (iii) *Servants*:—An estimated decline of 5% at the end of June and 5% at the end of December, following upon the general reduction of personal emoluments due to trade depression.
- (iv) *Light and Water*:—A reduction in the price of electricity in April from 20 cents to 17 cents a unit. Kerosene and water: no change.
- (v) *Transport*:—Tyres and tubes: a rise in January, no change till August and a fall in September (quoted by a British company). Petrol: a fall in June followed by a rise in September due to increased duty. Lubricating oil: no change. Taxation and Insurance: no change. Repairs: a fall of 15% spread over the year.
- (vi) *Education*:—In England, no change in school-fees but a slight decline in cost of maintenance following decline in Ministry of Labour Cost of Living indices from 153 to 147 at beginning and end of year. In Singapore: no change in school-fees but a decline in allowances due to fall in local food-prices.
- (vii) *Clothing*:—European: no change. Asiatic and Eurasian: a fall of 5% spread over the year.
- (viii) *Clubs*:—No change in entrance-fees or subscriptions. For miscellaneous expenditure, an increase of 5.7% at the end of the year, following the increases in sub-para (ii) above.
- (ix) *Rent*:—A fall in municipal assessment values, based on rents for 1931, of 12.9%.

AVERAGE COMMODITY PRICES

ARTICLE		per	1929	1930				
					January	February	March	A
			\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	
Arecanuts ...	\$ picul		11.39	9.60	8.30	7.50	7.00	
Coconut Oil ...	\$ picul		16.69	14.35	10.50	10.50	10.50	
Coffee (Beans) ...	cents lb.		49	45	34	34	35	
Copra (Sundried) ...	\$ picul		9.45	7.81	5.72	5.67	5.96	
Damar No. 1 ...	\$ picul		50.28	36.68	25.25	22.50	24.12	
Palm Oil ...	\$ ton		273.56	277.82	273.65	263.27	272.20	
Pepper (Black) ...	\$ picul		57.31	33.56	21.31	21.45	21.33	
Pepper (White) ...	\$ picul		103.64	49.54	37.42	37.62	40.76	
Pineapples ...	\$ case		...	3.36	3.51	3.42	3.24	
Rattans (Sampit) ...	\$ picul		14.76	11.37	8.00	8.25	9.00	
Rice (Siam No. 2) (Ordinary) ...	\$ ton		130.96	108.00	76.00	73.00	65.00	
Rubber ...	cents lb.		35	19	13	12	12	
Tapioca Flake ...	\$ picul		6.27	4.73	4.19	4.07	4.17	
Tea ...	cents lb.		65	65	57	63	65	
Tin ...	\$ picul		104.32	72.71	59.48	59.71	62.06	

COST

Asiatic Standard

Items	1914	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Food & Groceries Index Nos. ...	100	140.4	191.2	253.2	167.7	145.5	145.3	146.1	151.5	160.2	154.8	151.2
Tobacco Index Nos. ...	100	174.3	200.0	257.1	242.9	242.9	200.0	185.7	185.7	194.2	185.7	185.7
Servants Index Nos. ...	100	116.8	116.8	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5
Light & Water Index Nos. ...	100	146.4	148.0	148.0	155.0	156.4	155.0	129.2	131.0	123.4	134.0	134.0
Transport Index Nos. ...	100	112.5	122.9	126.8	122.8	112.0	94.8	99.4	105.3	103.5	94.2	93.1
Education Index Nos. ...	100	112.0	125.9	145.6	124.4	118.2	118.2	118.4	120.7	123.6	126.9	125.9
Clothing Index Nos. ...	100	189.8	229.6	291.6	237.2	182.8	163.6	157.1	158.1	157.5	155.4	151.9
Rent Index Nos. ...	100	120.0	130.0	150.0	154.0	181.0	217.0	230.0	242.0	257.0	284.0	312.0
Average Weighted Index Nos. ...	100	135.1	165.1	207.6	162.6	148.9	147.7	147.9	152.4	158.0	156.9	157.3

SINGAPORE, 1929, 1930 AND 1931

1931								Average 1931
May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
5.23	4.85	5.05	4.99	5.47	5.70	6.07	6.41	6.10
8.50	9.50	10.00	9.00	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.69
27	22	26	26	23	34	31	30	29
4.78	4.23	4.70	4.21	4.04	4.98	5.49	5.71	5.09
24.30	23.75	23.90	22.75	22.12	22.30	21.00	21.75	23.23
247.96	254.79	231.49	247.06	227.50	174.14	169.03	160.91	220.26
18.43	18.28	19.87	18.96	18.98	20.00	21.37	23.92	20.39
33.69	32.06	32.56	28.92	29.33	32.32	32.27	33.66	33.94
3.21	3.50	3.48	3.44	3.49	3.72	3.74	3.87	3.48
9.50	10.00	10.00	8.12	8.75	8.75	9.62	9.87	9.07
61.00	55.00	59.00	70.00	77.00	79.00	71.00	74.00	69.00
10	10	10	08	08	09	09	10	10
3.28	3.19	3.47	3.33	3.41	3.60	3.42	3.35	3.59
65	65	58	52	53	53	50	50	58
52.67	53.04	57.41	58.85	60.73	64.61	67.15	70.05	60.27

LIVING, 1914—1931

1930	1931												1931	% increase + or decrease in 1931 as compared with 1930
	End Jan.	End Feb.	End March	End April	End May	End June	End July	End Aug.	End Sep.	End Oct.	End Nov.	End Dec.		
140.2	120.9	118.4	116.6	116.6	110.8	106.1	107.0	108.5	107.0	104.6	105.6	103.6	103.0	- 26.5
171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	0
152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	138.0	138.0	- 9.7
131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	0
85.5	87.1	87.0	86.9	86.8	86.7	85.0	84.9	84.8	96.5	96.4	96.3	96.2	96.2	+ 12.5
122.8	117.6	116.8	116.4	116.4	114.7	113.5	113.7	114.1	113.7	113.2	113.3	112.6	112.6	- 8.3
139.6	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	- 4.7
285.7	285.8	282.1	278.5	274.8	271.2	267.7	264.2	260.7	257.3	254.0	250.7	247.4	247.4	- 14.6
147.5	137.8	136.2	135.1	134.7	131.6	128.0	128.0	128.4	128.6	127.2	127.4	125.0	125.0	- 15.3

Eurasian Standard**COST**

Items	1914	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Food & Groceries Index Nos. ...	100	136.5	160.3	214.3	168.8	140.0	141.0	139.8	143.4	153.0	155.0	149.4
Tobacco Index Nos. ...	100	174.3	200.0	257.1	242.9	242.9	200.0	185.7	185.7	194.2	185.7	185.7
Servants Index Nos. ...	100	116.8	116.8	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5
Light & Water Index Nos. ...	100	146.4	148.0	148.0	155.0	156.4	155.0	129.2	131.0	123.4	134.0	134.0
Transport Index Nos. ...	100	112.5	122.9	126.8	122.8	112.0	94.8	99.4	105.3	103.5	94.2	93.1
Education Index Nos. ...	100	112.2	118.3	136.1	125.5	117.1	117.3	116.9	118.8	122.2	127.6	125.9
Clothing Index Nos. ...	100	189.8	229.6	291.6	237.2	182.8	163.6	157.1	158.1	157.5	155.4	151.9
Rent Index Nos. ...	100	120.0	130.0	150.0	154.0	181.0	217.0	230.0	242.0	257.0	284.0	312.0
Average Weighted Index Nos. ...	100	133.4	150.9	190.4	163.4	145.9	145.4	144.6	148.3	154.1	156.9	156.1

European Standard

Items	1914	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Food & Groceries Index Nos. ...	100	136.5	160.3	214.3	168.8	140.0	141.0	139.8	143.4	153.0	155.0	149.4
Liquors, Aerated Waters and Tobacco Index Nos. ...	100	174.8	204.1	214.7	231.2	223.7	203.2	192.1	186.7	181.3	176.3	176.3
Servants Index Nos. ...	100	116.8	116.8	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5
Light & Water Index Nos. ...	100	119.8	128.3	238.4	252.9	252.9	252.9	252.9	252.9	252.9	234.8	234.8
Transport Index Nos. ...	100	112.5	122.9	126.8	122.8	112.0	94.8	99.4	105.3	103.5	93.1	93.1
Education Index Nos. ...	100	132.0	139.6	146.9	142.9	132.0	129.7	137.5	138.1	137.1	135.5	135.5
Clothing Index Nos. ...	100	189.8	229.6	291.6	237.2	182.8	163.6	157.1	158.1	157.5	151.9	151.9
Clubs Index Nos. ...	100	134.0	147.4	163.5	176.7	177.4	169.2	164.1	164.2	161.7	159.5	159.5
Rent Index Nos. ...	100	110.0	121.0	169.0	179.0	191.0	204.0	208.0	213.0	220.0	248.0	248.0
Average Weighted Index Nos. ...	100	132.1	146.1	180.0	168.7	156.7	153.5	154.6	156.4	158.3	158.8	158.8

ING, 1914—1931

1931												1931	% increase + or decrease — in 1931 as compared with 1930
End Jan.	End Feb.	End March	End April	End May	End June	End July	End Aug.	End Sept.	End Oct.	End Nov.	End Dec.		
124.5	125.6	123.8	125.7	123.0	118.0	116.0	116.4	111.5	109.3	111.7	109.7	109.7	— 16.9
171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	171.4	0
152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	138.0	138.0	— 9.7
131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	131.0	0
87.1	87.0	86.9	86.8	86.7	85.0	84.9	84.8	96.5	96.4	96.3	96.2	96.2	+ 12.5
118.6	119.0	118.4	119.0	118.3	116.7	116.2	116.3	114.8	114.3	115.0	114.4	114.4	— 5.2
134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	133.2	— 4.7
253.8	282.1	278.5	274.8	271.2	267.7	264.2	260.7	257.3	254.0	250.7	247.4	247.4	— 14.6
134.6	138.9	137.6	138.3	136.6	132.8	131.3	131.2	129.7	128.3	129.2	127.1	127.1	— 11.1

1931												1931	% increase + or decrease — in 1931 as compared with 1930
End Jan.	End Feb.	End Mar.	End April	End May	End June	End July	End Aug.	End Sept.	End Oct.	End Nov.	End Dec.		
124.5	125.6	123.8	125.7	123.0	118.0	116.0	116.4	111.5	109.3	111.7	109.7	109.7	— 16.9
168.1	168.1	168.1	168.1	168.1	168.1	168.1	168.1	177.2	178.4	178.4	178.4	178.4	+ 5.7
152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	145.3	138.0	138.0	— 9.7
216.8	216.8	216.8	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	195.1	— 10.0
87.1	87.0	86.9	86.8	86.7	85.0	84.9	84.8	96.5	96.4	96.3	96.2	96.2	+ 12.5
132.0	131.5	130.7	130.7	130.2	130.7	130.2	130.2	130.2	130.5	131.0	130.7	130.7	— 2.1
139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	139.8	0
155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8	159.9	160.5	160.5	160.5	160.5	+ 2.8
227.0	224.6	222.2	219.8	217.4	215.1	212.8	210.5	208.2	206.0	203.8	201.6	201.6	— 12.2

CHAPTER IX

Education and Welfare Institutions

A.—GENERAL

Educational facilities are provided in the Colony in English and in various vernacular languages—Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Schools are either Government, Aided by Government, or Private.

All schools, *i.e.*, places where fifteen or more persons are habitually taught in one or more classes, except where the teaching is of a purely religious character, and all supervisors, committees of management and teachers of schools, must be registered in accordance with the Registration of Schools Ordinance, 1926. To be a supervisor, a member of the committee of management or a teacher of an unregistered school is an offence against the Ordinance. Under the Ordinance the Director of Education may refuse to register any school that is unsanitary or that is likely to be used for the purpose of propaganda detrimental to the interests of the pupils or as a meeting place of an unlawful society. The Director of Education may also, in certain circumstances, refuse to register a person as a supervisor, a member of a committee of management or a teacher. The Director of Education, however, interferes as little and as seldom as possible.

There was constituted in 1909 an Education Board, composed of four official and four unofficial members, with the following functions:—

- (i) to determine the amount of fees to be charged in Government schools, and to receive all such fees;
- (ii) to submit to Government the Annual Estimates for educational purposes and to make recommendations thereon;
- (iii) to advise the Government as to the purpose for which moneys devoted to education should be expended and upon any matters connected with education which may from time to time be referred to it by the Governor.

This Board, in addition to school fees, receives the proceeds of an education rate of 2 per cent. on property in municipalities and 1 per cent. on property in rural areas to be devoted to the purposes of education within the Colony.

B.—ENGLISH EDUCATION

The English Schools are schools in which English is the medium of instruction. Few of the pupils are English speaking when they join, and the lowest class may be composed of children speaking between them some seven or eight different languages or dialects, those speaking one language or dialect being generally quite unable to understand those speaking any of the others. In the circumstances the use of the "Direct Method" of teaching English is practically obligatory. Children are accepted into the lowest class at the age of six or seven and they are given an education which ends as a rule

with their presentation at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, though one or two stay on and prepare for the London Matriculation Examination.

The fees are \$30 (£3 10s.) a year for the first six years i.e. for the years spent in the Primary Division of the school and \$48 (£5 12s.) a year for the remaining period. Attendance is not compulsory.

In 1931 there were 20 Government and 17 Aided schools in the Colony—16 situated in Singapore, 15 in Penang, 5 in Malacca and 1 in Labuan.

The average enrolment was 26,282 (10,102 in Government and 16,180 in Aided schools).

The Aided English schools are managed by various Missionary bodies—The Christian Brothers, the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Church of England, the Portuguese Catholic Church, and the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus.

The Government pays to such schools monthly grants equal to the difference between their revenue and approved expenditure. The approved expenditure includes Government rates of pay for the staff, rates and taxes on school premises, the cost of minor repairs and equipment, and salaries in respect of Missionary teachers at the rate of £420 per annum for a male and £280 per annum for a female missionary. Capital grants amounting to half the cost of approved new buildings are also paid by the Government under certain conditions.

The Private English schools may be divided into two main classes:—(a) those controlled by religious bodies and accommodated in proper school buildings; (b) those carried on by individuals (mainly Indians) for profit and accommodated in any sort of building from shop-house or private house to office or godown. In the case of the latter overcrowding is common and a cheap and meagre staff is generally employed. The pupils at such schools are usually overaged or dull or both. In Singapore in 1931 there were 52 such schools with an enrolment of 6,600.

C.—VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Technical Education.—Pupils from the Straits Settlements are admitted to the Government Technical School, Kuala Lumpur, which provides courses of training for students from the Public Works, Railways, Electrical, and Posts and Telegraphs Departments.

Agricultural Education.—There is no school of agriculture in the Straits Settlements but pupils are sent to the Malayan School of Agriculture at Serdang, Federated Malay States, where one-year and three-year courses of study are available.

Commercial Education.—Courses of study covering two years are provided by the Commercial Department of Raffles Institution, Singapore and by the Government Commercial School, Penang.

Industrial Education.—A Trade School was opened in Singapore in September, 1930, to provide a three years' course in Fitting, Motor Mechanics, Plumbing, etc. A similar school will be opened in Penang in 1932.

D.—UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE (POST-SECONDARY) EDUCATION

The highest educational institutions in Malaya are the King Edward VII College of Medicine, Singapore, and Raffles College, Singapore. The course of the College of Medicine covers five years and is recognised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. Licentiates of the College are thus able to secure admission to the Colonial list of the Medical Register and to be registered as medical practitioners in any part of the British Dominions.

Raffles College, Singapore, was opened in 1928 in order to place education of a University standard within the reach of all the youths of British Malaya who are capable of profiting by it, and to meet an urgent need for qualified teachers for secondary classes. It provides three-year courses in Arts and Science. Diplomas are awarded to successful students.

Two scholarships, known as Queen's Scholarships, the value of which may amount to £500 each per annum for six years, may be awarded in each year after examination and selection. The examining body is appointed by the Cambridge Delegacy, and it is a condition that no scholarship shall be awarded to a candidate who, in the opinion of the examining body, is not fit to study for an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge. Queen's Scholars are ordinarily required to proceed to a residential college at Oxford or Cambridge.

E.—VERNACULAR EDUCATION

Malay Vernacular Schools.—Malay Vernacular Education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), quarters for staff, staff, equipment and books are all provided by the Government.

The aim in these schools is (i) to give a general and practical education to those boys who have no desire for an education in English, and who will find employment either in agriculture or in appointments in which a knowledge of the vernacular is all that is required, and (ii) to provide a sound foundation in the vernacular on which an education in English can be superimposed in the case of boys who desire to proceed eventually to an English school.

The school course normally lasts five years in the course of which period the pupils pass through five standards. The subjects of the curriculum are Reading and Writing (in the Arabic and Romanised script), Composition, Arithmetic, Geography, Malay History, Hygiene, Drawing and Physical Training. Boys do Basketry and Gardening in addition, and girls do Needlework and Domestic Science.

Male teachers undergo a three-years course of training at Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim.

Chinese Vernacular Schools.—There are no Government Chinese schools. The Chinese have up to now preferred to be responsible for their own education in their native language, and the Government has assisted merely by a system of grants-in-aid.

The number of Chinese schools receiving grants-in-aid in 1931 was 7 in Singapore, 25 in Penang and 3 in Malacca.

There are three types of schools:—

- (i) those managed by properly constituted committees;
- (ii) pseudo-public schools, i.e., schools organised by one or more teachers who choose their own "committee members";
- (iii) private schools run by a teacher who relies on school fees, these schools being usually small and old in type.

There are several free schools at which a nominal fee of 50 cents (1s. 2d.) a month is charged. The fees in other schools are usually around about \$2 (4s. 8d.) a month.

In almost all the private schools the native dialects of the pupils are still used in teaching, but in the other schools Colloquial Mandarin is the almost universal language of instruction. English is taught in many of the large schools and in some of the smaller. The standard is very low, but attempts have been made to improve it by insisting on a minimum qualification of the Cambridge Junior Certificate from teachers engaged solely to teach English, and by having a standard curriculum drawn up for the guidance of teachers of English.

The Primary Course in Chinese schools normally takes six years to get through. The Government has little, if any, control over the fees charged, the hours of attendance or the length of holidays in any except the Aided schools. The usual school subjects are found in the curricula.

At the close of 1931 there were 302 registered schools with 997 registered teachers and 20,780 pupils (of whom 5,169 were girls).

Tamil Vernacular Schools.—There are no Government Tamil Schools in the Straits Settlements. Most of the Tamil schools in Penang and Province Wellesley and all those in Malacca are estate schools founded either voluntarily or by order of the Controller of Labour. The remainder are private schools run by Mission bodies or Committees. There are some private schools in Singapore which are of a poor standard. No Singapore schools are in receipt of grants-in-aid.

No fees are charged in Estate schools but in some of the schools run by private bodies the pupils pay. There is usually an arrangement in such schools whereby poor children pay little or nothing. The subjects of the curriculum are reading, dictation, writing, arithmetic and in the higher classes composition and geography. The standard of work differs considerably from school to school, but the general standard in reading, writing, dictation and simple arithmetic is good.

F.—MUSIC, ART AND DRAMA

Music.—Singing is taught as a class subject in the lower classes of all English schools. Folk songs, national songs, Rounds and Nursery Rhymes are taught as aids to the teaching of English. In some senior schools, lessons on musical appreciation are given and illustrated by gramophone selections. It is reported that a fair percentage of the pupils attending schools show musical aptitude. An oral test proved that about 60 per cent of the pupils in the singing classes have an ear for music. A number of schools have orchestras.

Art.—All English schools and many vernacular schools follow a progressive scheme in Art which is revised annually. The work is uniformly good in Singapore and Penang schools.

Drama.—Dramatisation forms a part of the English curriculum of all English schools. The lower standards act simple plays and dramatise stories. The senior boys and girls act scenes from Shakespeare.

G.—ORPHANAGES AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

The St. Nicholas Home (a Church of England institution supported by the Government), receives blind and physically defective children without restriction as to race or religion from all over Malaya. There was an average of 13 boys and girls in the Home during 1931. It was transferred from Malacca to Penang in September.

There are twelve orphanages in the Colony (three in Singapore, five in Penang and four in Malacca), with 1,206 orphans in 1931, maintained by various religious bodies. The majority of these orphanages receive some measure of Government support.

The orphans are educated in their own language and in addition, receive an elementary English education. The girls are then taught house keeping and needle work. They generally marry or take up domestic service when they leave, but some continue their education at English schools and become teachers or hospital nurses. The boys go to English schools where they receive the same treatment as ordinary pupils.

Po Leung Kuk Homes, established in connection with rescue work among women and girls, are maintained at Singapore, Penang and Malacca. The Homes are supported by private and Government subscriptions, and are supervised by committees of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the Chairman.

Victims of traffickers, women and girls discovered on boats from China in suspicious circumstances, as well as muitsais who complain of ill-treatment, are detained in the Homes, where they remain until suitable arrangements can be made for their welfare.

The Home in Singapore has accommodation for 300 inmates.

CHAPTER X

Communications and Transport

A.—SHIPPING

Communication by sea between the various settlements which comprise the Colony is frequent and regular.

There is a weekly mail service between Singapore and Labuan, which is carried out by ships belonging to the Straits Shipping Company. Malacca is in constant and regular touch with Singapore and Penang through the vessels of the Straits Steamship Company. In addition to the local services between Singapore and Penang a large majority of the mail and passenger ships which call at Singapore, either eastward bound or westward bound, call at Penang also. Christmas Island is served by the s.s. "Islander" belonging to the Christmas Island Phosphate Company, which maintains a five-weekly service.

In regard to its external sea communications the Colony is extremely favourably situated, Singapore being a nodal point for traffic between Europe, Netherlands India and the Far East.

Proof of the existing heavy depression in world trade is clearly indicated in the Straits Settlements shipping figures for the year 1931—the tonnage showing a heavy decline for the first time since 1918. (See Table on pages 64 and 65).

The tonnage of all vessels, *i.e.* merchant vessels, native craft, men-o'-war, etc., entered and cleared at the six ports of the Colony during the year 1931 was 46,186,747 tons, being a decrease of 3,175,488 tons as compared with the year 1930.

Of this decrease Singapore is responsible for 2,645,500 tons; Penang for 587,430 tons; Labuan, Dindings and Christmas Island together for 182,725 tons; while Malacca shows an increase of 240,167 tons.

Comparing the tonnage of merchant-vessels only (*i.e.* all vessels above 75 tons nett register) the decrease is 3,238,445 tons.

In the last five years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows:—

1927	..	..	..	39,693,766 tons
1928	..	..	..	42,987,154 „
1929	..	..	..	45,435,395 „
1930	..	..	..	46,588,856 „
1931	..	..	..	*43,632,445 „

* Apparent discrepancies in the tonnage are due to the change in classification from "under 50 tons" in 1930 to "under 75 tons" in 1931.

Statement Showing Nationality, Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entering and Clearing the Ports of the Straits Settlements, 1931

NATIONALITY	SINGAPORE						PENANG					
	MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR			MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR		
	Over 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net		Tons		Over 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net		Tons	
	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons
British	5198	10,335,218	...	...	72	227,350	3181	7,818,463	...	...	34	56,884
American	107	537,992	...	...	2	30,000	78	439,190	...	...	...	...
Chinese	104	44,525	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Danish	193	613,678	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutch	4914	6,967,458	...	...	...	...	1,139	1,276,631	...	...	...	...
French	451	1,967,378	...	...	...	32,000	2	8,252	...	...	...	...
German	373	1,692,043	...	...	...	...	198	896,282	...	...	...	...
Italian	123	544,532	...	...	...	...	52	198,446	...	...	...	...
Japanese	1152	4,500,996	...	...	...	36,000	331	1,346,052	...	...	...	...
Latvian	2	944	...	...	...	...	2	944	...	...	...	...
Norwegian	861	1,384,896	...	...	...	...	257	255,307	...	...	...	...
Panama	7	24,940	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	34	74,298	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Swedish	68	265,876	...	...	...	...	26	96,558	...	...	...	...
Sarawak	158	88,939	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Siamese	340	187,137	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	3,422
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	14085	29,230,850	33466	1,382,003	82	325,350	5404	12,727,436	13717	576,394	42	60,306
± 1930	-4157	-2,598,252	-360	+5,694	+2	-52,942	-1864	-680,674	+1548	+113,060	+12	-19,816

Statement Showing Nationality, Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entering and Clearing the Ports of the Straits Settlements, 1931

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1931

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NATIONALITY	MALACCA						LAHUAN					
	MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR			MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR		
	Over 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net		Over 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net		Under 75 Tons Net	
	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons	No.	Tons
British	1168	873,072	...	...	...	...	264	223,432	...	...	6	17,288
American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chinese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Danish	16	52,534	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutch	64	34,700	...	...	...	...	6	2,224	...	...	...	...
French	2	7,918	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
German	41	196,594	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3,080
Italian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Japanese	...	45,772	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Latvian	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Norwegian	77	61,579	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Panama	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Swedish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sarawak	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	346
Siamese	36	23,142	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	1421	1,295,311	5234	124,000	...	...	270	231,656	2859	25,917	10	20,714
± 1930	+121	+231,139	-380	+9,028	...	...	...	-14,842	...	-3,147	+10	+20,714

Note 1.—Apparent discrepancies in the numbers and tonnage of the small merchant ships are due to the change in classification from "under 50 tons" in 1930 to "under 75 tons" in 1931. The total tonnage is not affected.

Note 2.—To the above figures must be added:
 Discharges, Island, Total Net Tonnage Entered and Cleared 1931:—107,356 Tons—a decrease of 128,104 Tons.
 Christiania, Island, Total Net Tonnage Entered and Cleared 1931:—79,454 Tons—a decrease of 57,346 Tons.
 Total Tonnage Entered and Cleared in 1931:—40,186,747 Tons—Being a decrease of 3,175,488 Tons.
 Total Merchant Ship Tonnage Entered and Cleared in 1931:—45,786,387 Tons—Being a decrease of 3,126,444 Tons.
 Total Merchant Ship Tonnage Entered and Cleared in 1931, Over 75 Tons:—43,635,445 Tons—Being a decrease of 3,238,445 Tons.
 Total Merchant Ship Tonnage Entered and Cleared in 1931, Under 75 Tons:—2,147,942 Tons—Being an increase of 112,001 Tons.

B.—ROADS

The total mileage of metalled roads in the Colony at the end of 1931 was 683.42 miles. Roads and streets in the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca are not included.

In the various Settlements the mileage is:—

Singapore	..	..	..	105.73 miles
Penang	..	..	..	67.51 „
Dindings	..	..	..	33.40 „
Province Wellesley	..	..	..	180.79 „
Malacca	..	..	..	276.75 „
Labuan	..	..	..	19.24 „

In addition to the metalled roads there are, in the Straits Settlements, 140 miles of gravel road, natural road and hill path maintained by Government.

The total expenditure on metalling and remetalling roads during the year was \$947,341.20 and the number of miles resurfaced during the year was 29.61 miles.

The total expenditure on the maintenance of roads amounted to \$794,655.94 and the average cost of upkeep per mile was \$965.03 as compared with \$970.22 the previous year. All roads were maintained at a high standard throughout the year.

The policy of straightening main roads treating their surfaces with bituminous material was continued.

Most of the roads in the Colony are now open to very heavy motor lorry traffic and, although the limit is stated to be 8 tons gross, in certain cases loads of over 14 tons on two axles have been found using the Colony highways.

The average weight of traffic per day at the 6th mile Main Trunk Road (Singapore to Johore) was 6,660 tons, and the intensity of traffic per day per foot width of road was 370 tons.

C.—AIRWAYS

Civil Aerodrome.—The Singapore Civil Aerodrome now under construction will provide a circular landing ground 1,000 yards in diameter for land planes and an extensive and sheltered anchorage for seaplanes.

The Aerodrome will be fully equipped with standard hangar accommodation and ancillary services including a sea-plane slipway and wharves, the latter being sited on the seaward perimeter of the landing ground.

The Aerodrome is sited in an estuary 2 miles N.E. of the General Post Office and between the business and residential areas which form the Eastern portion of the City.

To facilitate the operation of commercial air craft pending the completion of the Aerodrome, arrangements were concluded through the courtesy of the Air Ministry for the provision by the Government at the Royal Air Force Base, Seletar of hangar accommodation for civil aircraft, the erection of which was undertaken as an Agency Service by the Air Ministry. The building was completed and opened to public use on 20th November 1931.

Particulars of the public transport air services are given in the section following dealing with Posts.

D.—POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS

(a) .POSTS

Postal facilities are provided in all the towns and larger villages in the Straits Settlements. In addition to the Head Post Offices at Singapore, Penang and Malacca and the Post Office at Labuan, there are 53 Sub-Post Offices and Postal Agencies in the Colony.

The Postal rates were as follows throughout the year, no change having been made—

—	LETTERS		POSTCARDS		PRINTED PAPERS
	1st oz.	Each succeeding oz.	Single	Reply	Every two ozs.
Foreign ...	12 cts.	6 cts.	6 cts.	12 cts.	2 cts.
Imperial ...	6 „	6 „	4 „	8 „	2 „
Local ...	4 cts. per 2 ozs.	2 cts. per 2 ozs.	2 „	4 „	2 „

The number of posting boxes, exclusive of those at Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Postal Agencies was 189 on the 31st of December; and this number included 13 added during the course of the year. Eighty-three licences for the sale of stamps were issued during the year.

The construction of the new Post Office at Malacca was completed and the final transfer to the new building was effected on the 7th of December.

The volume of work dealt with by the Post Office during the year 1931 generally shewed a decline as compared with that of the previous year.

The number of postal articles (excluding parcels) handled during the year in the Colony is estimated at 45,554,621, a decrease of 4,318,914 as compared with 1930. These figures include official, ordinary, registered and insured letters, printed papers, commercial papers and sample packets.

Sacks of closed mail in transit to the number of 125,767 were handed at Singapore, Penang and Malacca, being a decrease of 12,463 as compared with 1930.

Regular weekly mails for Europe were forwarded alternately by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and by the British India contract service *viâ* India. The average time taken by mails from Singapore to reach London was 23½ days *viâ* India and 22½ days by the P. & O. Superscribed mails were also forwarded by vessels of the Blue Funnel, Rotterdam Lloyd, Royal Dutch, Messageries Maritimes and Lloyd Trestino lines. In the reverse direction, mails from London to Singapore, the average time for transit of mails was 22½ days.

The use of special trains to convey the outward Europe mails from Prai on occasions when the vessels conveying the mails arrived at Penang too late to connect with the morning express train from Prai was discontinued in October.

The weekly Air Mail service *via* Karachi to Iraq Palestine, Egypt and Europe continued to operate throughout the year, but it is still of comparatively little use to Malaya owing to the length of time the correspondence takes in transit between Karachi and Malaya. The average time Penang to London by this route is 18 days.

The fortnightly Air Mail to Europe by the Dutch service from Alor Star to Amsterdam continued until the 16th of October since when the service has operated weekly. This service has proved most successful. The average time Singapore to London and *vice versa* is 11 days.

The weekly Dutch Air Mail service of the Koninklijke Nederlandsch Indische Luchtvaart Maatschappij between Singapore and Batavia continued to operate successfully and regularly throughout the year. It was extended in August to Medan.

The operations of the Money Order Branch of the Post Office in 1931 amounted to \$6,026,546; the principal business being with India, the Malay States, Great Britain, Netherlands India, Ceylon, China and Siam.

(b) TELEGRAPHS

Eleven submarine cables radiate from Singapore:—

To Penang 5 thence to Madras 2.

to Colombo 2.

to Deli 1.

Batavia 2 thence to Cocos 1.

Banjoewangi 1 thence to Port Darwin 2.

Hongkong 1 direct thence to Manila 1.

” ” to North China 1.

” ” to Macao 1.

Cochin China 1 thence to Hongkong 1.

Labuan 1 thence to Hongkong 1.

There are also Government Telegraph lines from Penang to Province Wellesley and thence to Perak, Selangor, Pahang, Negri Sembilan, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu, Siam, Johore, Malacca

and Singapore. In Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings there are 279 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles of Telegraph wire, 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles of Submarine cable containing 395 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles of wire, 2,368 $\frac{1}{8}$ miles of overhead telephone wire, 35 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles of underground telephone cables containing 6,332 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles of wire.

In Singapore, the route and wire mileage between the General Post Office and Woodlands (Johore Causeway) is as under—

	Route Mileage	Wire Mileage
On Public Roads ..	8 Miles 24 chains	59 Miles 50 chains
On Posts and Telegraphs Poles within railway reserves	9 „ 48 „	85 „ 22 „

There are 192 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles of Telegraph Line and 1,377 miles and 16 chains of Telephone line in Malacca.

There are 42 Telegraph Offices in the Colony. The continued trade depression was again reflected in the number of telegrams handled. During the year 379,068 telegrams were received and 481,247 were forwarded, compared with the respective figures of 444,651 and 542,808 in 1930.

By the opening of the new telegraph line between Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States and Kota Bharu, Kelantan, telegraph traffic with Kelantan was expedited. Kelantan entered the Malayan telegraph system with a reduction in the unit rate per word from 11 to 5 cents.

(c) TELEPHONES

The telephone exchange in Singapore is operated by the Oriental Telephone Company; the exchanges in Penang, Province Wellesley and Malacca by the Post Office.

The number of direct exchange lines connected to the Telephone Exchanges in the Straits Settlements (excluding Singapore) on the 31st of December, 1931, was 1,790, a decrease of 110 compared with 1930. In addition there were 864 extension lines, extension bells and private lines, an increase of 43 compared with 1930. The nett revenue derived from telephones was \$340,585, a decrease of \$38,420 compared with 1930.

The installation of the "Carrier Current" systems of speech transmission was completed by Messrs. Standard Telephones and Cables Limited, during the year under review; and public communication over these channels between Singapore and Penang and between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor. These new speech channels have materially

increased the range of telephonic communication throughout the system and any subscriber to the Straits Settlements telephonic systems can now speak to any other subscriber connected to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States systems (excluding Kuantan and Pekan in the State of Pahang).

Two submarine cables, one telegraph and one telephone were laid in January connecting Penang with the mainland at Butterworth; and three lengths of submarine cable were laid across the Prai River at Permatang Pau in February.

(d) WIRELESS

There are two Government Wireless Stations in the Colony situated respectively at Paya Lebar, Singapore and Penaga, Province Wellesley. The machinery and apparatus at both stations were maintained in good working order throughout the year and point to point and shore to ship communication was carried on without interruption. The old spark sets were replaced by I.C.W. transmitters at Penaga on the 5th of October and at Paya Lebar on the 13th of November. The station at Paya Lebar carries out point to point communication with Kuching, Sarawak, and Christmas Island, in addition to a shore to ship service. The station at Penaga communicates with ship stations and receives the British Official Wireless press transmitted by Rugby. Point to point communication is established between Penaga and Bangkok; and telegraph business between Malaya and Siam is conducted by this means whenever there is a failure of the telegraph line between Penang and Bangkok.

Considerable aircraft work was undertaken by Penaga during the year. This traffic seems likely to increase as aircraft services develop.

Negotiations proceeded with Imperial and International Communications Limited during the year, but were not completed at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XI

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures

A.—CURRENCY

The standard coin of the Colony is the Straits Settlements silver dollar. This and the half-dollar (silver) are unlimited legal tender. There are subsidiary silver coins of the denominations of 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There is also a nickel coin of 5 cents denomination. These subsidiary coins are legal tender to the amount of two dollars. There are copper coins of the denominations of 1 cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent and $\frac{1}{4}$ cent, but there is now practically no circulation of coins of the latter two denominations. Copper coin is legal tender up to one dollar. Currency notes are issued by the Colony in the denominations of \$10,000, \$1,000, \$100, \$50, \$10, \$5, and \$1. Notes of the first two denominations are used mainly for bankers' clearances.

During the War, and for some years after, notes of the denominations of 25 cents and 10 cents were issued. These notes are no longer issued, but a fair quantity of them still remain in circulation.

In 1906 the Currency Commissioners were empowered to issue notes in exchange for gold at the rate of \$60 for £7, and by order of the King in Council gold sovereigns were declared legal tender at this rate, the sterling value of the dollar being thus fixed at 2s. 4d. Gold, however, has never been in active circulation in the Colony.

The Currency Commissioners may accept sterling in London for dollars issued by them in Singapore at a fixed rate of 2s. 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. to the dollar, and, *vice versa*, may receive dollars in Singapore in exchange for sterling sold in London at the rate of 2s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to the dollar. The exchange fluctuations in the value of the dollar may therefore vary between these two limits.

Excluding subsidiary coins, the currency of the Colony in circulation at the end of the year consisted of \$67,414,796 in currency notes and \$4,268,851 in dollars and half dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of \$136,690 as compared with \$137,981 at the end of 1930.

At the end of 1930 the Currency Notes in Circulation amounted in value to \$82,423,391. There was a steady demand by the public for Sterling during the months of January, February, March, April, July, August and September, and the consequent contraction in the Currency during those months amounted to \$21,663,350. But in the months of October, November and December a demand for Currency made itself felt which resulted in the issue of \$5,661,800 thus making a net contraction over the year of \$16,001,550.

The liquid portion held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to \$36,093,205.76, consisting of £328,251 in gold, \$18,611,176.93 in silver and \$2,578,548.04 on deposit with the Government, held locally, and £73,330 in gold and £1,337,158.86 in sterling and short dated investments in London.

The investments held by the Commissioners on account of the Currency Guarantee Fund were worth, at the average mean prices at the end of the year, \$76,432,182.05; the cost price of those investments having been \$85,257,219.85.

The requirements of the law are that, as a minimum, a portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund being not less than 2/5ths of the notes in circulation shall be kept in "liquid" form, *i.e.*, in current silver and gold coin in the Colony and in Gold, Cash on deposit in the Bank of England, Treasury Bills, Cash at call, or other easily realisable securities in London. The balance can be invested and is known as the Investment portion of the Fund. The liquid portion at the end of the year was \$36,093,205.76 and the investment portion

amounted to \$76,576,012.86. The excess value of the Fund over the total note circulation at the end of the year was \$45,254,421.87 as compared with an excess of \$48,773,175.60 at the end of 1930.

There was a nett withdrawal by the Treasury of \$774,397 in subsidiary silver coins during the year, and a nett decrease of \$2,162 in the circulation of ten cent notes.

Excluding the amount held by the Treasury \$9,456,961 were in circulation at the end of the year in subsidiary silver and \$727,657.25 in currency notes of values less than \$1. The value of notes below \$1 in circulation at the end of 1929 was \$735,627.25 and at the end of 1930 \$729,841.25.

Seventeen millions two hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred and seventy-three and three-quarter notes to the value of \$83,528,735 were destroyed during the year as against 18,652,188½ to the value of \$90,750,079 in 1930.

B.—BANKING AND EXCHANGE

The following Banks had Establishments in the Colony during the year 1931:—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China

„ Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

„ Mercantile Bank of India, Limited

„ P. & O. Banking Corporation, Limited

Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son (Bankers), Limited

The Netherlands Trading Society (Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij)

„ Banque de L'Indo Chine

„ National City Bank of New York

„ Netherlands India Commercial Bank (Nederlandsch Indische Handelsbank)

„ Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company, Limited

„ Bank of Taiwan, Limited

„ Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited

„ Chinese Commercial Bank, Limited

„ Ho Hong Bank, Limited

„ China and Southern Bank, Limited

„ Oversea Chinese Bank, Limited

„ Lee Wah Bank, Limited

„ Kwong Lee Banking Company

„ Eastern Bank, Limited

„ National Commercial and Savings Bank, Limited

During the year under report the sterling demand rate (bank opening rates only) ranged between $2\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{3}{16}$ and $2\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{21}{32}$. The higher rate was obtainable only over a very short period at the end of the fourth quarter.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st of December was 27,324 as compared with 25,038 on the 31st of December, 1930; an increase of 2,286. During the year 6,469 new accounts were opened while 4,183 accounts were closed.

2. The amount standing to the credit of the depositors on the 31st of December was \$5,028,579, as compared with \$4,540,382 on the 31st of December, 1930. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was \$184 as compared with \$181 at the end of 1930.

3. The book value of the investments held by the Savings Bank on the 31st of December was \$4,852,401 and the market value of these investments according to Stock Exchange quotations on the same date was \$4,555,418. The market value has however since considerably appreciated.

4. During the year Savings Bank Pass Books printed in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil were issued to depositors.

C.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The standard measures recognised by the laws of the Colony are as follows:—

- (a) Standard of Extension, the Imperial yard.
- (b) Standard of Weight, the Imperial pound.
- (c) Standard of Capacity, the Imperial gallon.

Among the Asiatic commercial and trading classes, Chinese steelyards (called "dachings") of various sizes are generally employed for weighing purposes.

The undermentioned statement shows the principal local measures used with their relation to English standards:—

<i>Local term</i>		<i>Relation to English Standard</i>
The chupak	.. equals	1 quart.
The gantang	.. „	1 gallon.
The tahlil	.. „	1½ ozs.
The kati (16 tahils)	.. „	1½ lbs.
The pikul (100 katis)	.. „	133½ lbs.
The koyan (40 pikuls)	.. „	5,333½ lbs.

CHAPTER XII

Public Works

The Public Works Department is under the administrative control of the Colonial Engineer who is responsible for all public works, exclusive of Municipal and Railway Works, in the Straits Settlements; he is the chief engineering adviser to the Government and controls the civil engineering staff of the Department in the Colony.

The total expenditure for the year under all heads was \$12,712,163.45 an increase of \$2,191,413.40 as compared with the expenditure of 1930.

The expenditure of \$12,712,163.45 was made up as follows:—

	\$	c.
Expended under Personal Emoluments ..	616,274	00
" " Other Charges ..	108,156	82
" " Annually Recurrent ..	2,478,856	18
" " Works Extraordinary ..	8,711,591	35
" on behalf of other Departments	189,556	47
" under Miscellaneous Services ..	607,728	63

The expenditure in the various Settlements was as follows:—

	\$	c.
Singapore	6,775,614	63
Penang	2,050,543	61
Dindings	186,717	21
Province Wellesley	1,419,310	73
Malacca	2,232,248	11
Labuan	47,729	16
	<hr/>	
	12,712,163	45

The percentage of cost of establishment to total expenditure was—

Civil Engineers and Architects ..	2.13	per cent
Clerks, exclusive of Financial Section ..	.52	" "
Technical Subordinates ..	1.32	" "
Storekeepers, Dredge Masters, etc., ..	.71	" "
Financial Staff .. .. .	.17	" "
	<hr/>	
Total ..	4.85	" "

The average value of work carried out per Engineer unit including architects was \$366,767.

Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals.—The total expenditure on the maintenance of Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals was \$1,460,718.23, an increase of \$477,973.44 as compared with the previous year.

Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals in the Colony were maintained in satisfactory condition throughout the year, and in addition to normal maintenance a total of \$856,077 was spent on reconstruction and improvements.

Considerable improvements to the alignments of roads by cutting back dangerous corners, widening restricted places, and reconstruction and extension of culverts were carried out.

Buildings and Miscellaneous Works, Annually Recurrent.—The total expenditure on the maintenance of Buildings and Miscellaneous Works in the Colony was \$1,018,137.95 as compared with \$922,211.37 in 1930.

Government buildings were maintained in satisfactory condition during the year.

Extraordinary.—The total expenditure under this head during the year was \$8,711,591.35 an increase of \$1,556,574.89 as compared with the expenditure in 1930.

The expenditure in the various Settlements was as follows:—

			\$	c.
Singapore	..	..	4,577,258	04
Penang	..	..	1,506,893	90
Dindings	..	..	122,626	73
Province Wellesley	..	..	972,479	56
Malacca	..	..	1,519,709	28
Labuan	..	..	12,623	84

The principal works completed during the year were as follows:—

Singapore.—

Eight quarters for Assistants to Professors at College of Medicine.

Ten quarters for Laboratory Assistants, Tiong Bahru.

New Dispensary at Kandang Kerbau.

Store, Sikh Guard Room and Tiffin Rooms for Monopolies Department.

Police Mess with Servants' Quarters and Garages at Police Depot.

Detective Station.

New Police Station, Paya Lebar.

New Government Printing Office and Works including new machinery.

English Elementary School at Bukit Panjang.

Penang.—

Extension to Wellesley Primary School.

Post Office with quarters for Postmaster at Bayan Lepas.

Province Wellesley.—

Surgical Ward and operating room at Sungei Bakap Hospital.

Two new wards at Butterworth Hospital.

Barracks at Police Station, Bukit Mertajam.

Malacca.—

New High School including quarters for staff.

Vernacular Schools at Parit Melana, Ayer Panas, Bukit Baru Bachang, Alor Gajah, Sempang, Nyalas and Kandang.

General Post Office.

The principal works in hand at the close of the year were as follows:—

Singapore.—

Civil Aerodrome.

Quarters for 100 Attendants at General Hospital.

Quarters for 100 Postmen at Wallich Street.

Maternity Ward Kandang Kerbau Hospital.

New Government Monopolies Offices and Godowns and Post Office, Maxwell Road.

New Head Quarters for Straits Settlements Volunteer Force.

V. D. Clinic and quarters for staff.

Married Sikh Barracks for Police at Pearl's Hill.

Police Station and Barracks at Hill Street.

Police Station and Quarters at Beach Road.

New Central Police Station.

Quarters for 26 Subordinates.

New English School, Jalan Besar.

New Pier to replace Johnston's Pier.

Teluk Ayer Tidal Basin.

Reclamation of Crown Land at Labrador.

Penang.—

Extension to Penang Free School.

New Wards and Quarters, General Hospital.

Trade School.

Assembly Hall, Hutching's School.

Electrical Installation at Pulau Jerejak.

P. W. D. Workshop at Bukit Mertajam.

Malacca.—

New General Hospital.

Water Works.—The various installations of Waterworks in the Straits Settlements (excluding supplies to Municipalities) were maintained throughout the year.

Investigations for a new water supply for the Dindings were carried out.

Progress was made on the extension of Water Supply to Bukit Mertajam.

Investigations for a Water Supply at Batang Malaka were carried out during the year.

Electric Light and Power.—All installations, excluding the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca, were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year under review.

Dredging Operations and Reclamation Works.—The three dredgers “Mudlark”, “Tembakul” and “Todak” worked throughout the year; they removed 304,130 cubic yards of dredgings.

The reclamation of swampy lands in Singapore was continued.

Irrigation and Drainage.—All irrigation and drainage channels were maintained in good condition throughout the year.

Sanitation.—The maintenance of all sanitary installations was carried out by Departmental labour.

Architectural Branch.—The Architectural Branch worked at high pressure throughout the year.

Labour and Material.—There was fall in the costs of labour and practically all building materials during the year.

General.—The total expenditure for the year, viz. \$12,712,163.45 is \$1,994,959.82 in excess of the previous highest expenditure of \$10,717,203.63 in 1927.

CHAPTER XIII

Justice, Police, Prisons and Reformatories

A.—JUSTICE

The Courts for the administration of civil and criminal law in the Colony are as follows:—

- (a) The Supreme Court
- (b) District Courts
- (c) Police Courts
- (d) Coroners' Courts

The Court of Criminal Appeal Ordinance, 1931, providing for the creation of a Court of Criminal Appeal to hear appeals from convictions had in trials before the Supreme Court, has now been passed, but has not yet been brought into force.

2. The Supreme Court is composed of the Chief Justice and three or more Puisne Judges. It is a Court of Record, and exercises civil and criminal jurisdiction, in each case both original and appellate. When exercising appellate civil jurisdiction, the Court is

styled the Court of Appeal. An appeal may lie from the Court of Appeal to the Privy Council. Criminal trials are held before a Judge sitting with a jury of seven persons.

3. District Courts, presided over by a District Judge, are constituted in each of the four Settlements. They have both civil and criminal jurisdiction, for the exercise of which, in the case of Singapore, separate Courts exist. In certain instances, the District Judge is assisted by an Assistant District Judge. The jurisdiction of District Courts is, normally, limited to suits involving not more than \$500, when heard before a District Judge, and \$100, when heard before an Assistant District Judge.

4. Police Courts exist in varying numbers in each Settlement, the Governor having power to constitute as many Police Courts in each Settlement as he thinks fit. The jurisdiction of the Police Courts is, in the main, criminal, and is regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code, but certain additional powers and duties are conferred upon them by other Ordinances.

5. Coroners' Courts exist in each Settlement; a Coroner is appointed by the Governor either for the whole Settlement or for a district thereof.

B.—POLICE

(i).—ORGANISATION

The organisation of the Straits Settlements Police is shewn in the subjoined diagram. Briefly the scheme is that each Settlement is in charge of a Chief Police Officer whose command is divided into a number of territorial divisions and departmental branches superintended in most cases by gazetted officers. In Penang and Malacca the Chief Police Officer is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for the whole of the Police arrangements of the Settlement. In Singapore the Chief Police Officer performs similar duties but in addition there are the following independent branches:—

- (a) The Special Branch which is almost wholly absorbed in work of a political kind and is not concerned in the investigation of any crime which is not of a political or subversive nature. This branch is the central investigating and recording machine for the Colony in all matters of the type with which it is designed to deal and in Settlements other than Singapore operates largely through the local Chief Police Officers and the Detective Branches.
- (b) The Dépôt, at which recruits for the Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca are concentrated. The Commandant of the Dépôt is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for recruiting men of the uniformed branch of the Malay, Indian and Chinese Contingent in Singapore and for all training schemes. The Chief Police Officers in Penang and Malacca select their own recruits and each Chief Police Officer selects his own plain clothes men.
- (c) The Financial Branch.

Working in direct liaison with the Police are the Deputy Public Prosecutors in Singapore and Penang, the former being an Officer of the Attorney-General's staff, the latter an officer of the Malayan Civil Service. They are in immediate charge of the Police prosecuting staffs in the lower criminal courts.

The Singapore office includes the Settlement of Malacca within its scope.

(ii).—CRIME

Seizable offences reported during 1931 numbered 7,486, a decrease of 101 compared with the 1930 figure. Arrests were made in 3,744 of the cases and resulted in the accused in 2,630 cases being convicted.

Crimes of violence shew a considerable decrease compared with the previous year.

The total number of thefts simple and thefts in dwellings for 1931 shows an appreciable decrease in the town areas of Singapore and Penang compared with the figures for 1930. On the other hand thefts in Province Wellesley and Malacca, *i.e.*, rural areas very appreciably increased. As might be expected vagrants and unemployed were responsible for an unusually large proportion of these cases.

The general decrease in the number of thefts recorded is offset to some extent by a nett increase in the number of housebreakings from 733 in 1930 to 872 in 1931. Singapore and Malacca are responsible for an increase of 143 and 126 reports respectively. Many of these cases were of a very minor nature. Both Penang and Province Wellesley show an appreciable decrease.

Cases of extortion in Singapore were much more numerous in 1931 than in 1930 and are higher than they have been for several years. There is no doubt that a considerable part of this increase can be traced to the greater confidence exhibited by intimidated persons, particularly of the hawkers and prostitute classes and their consequent readiness to report occurrences which formerly they would have been afraid to make public.

Other noticeable points in respect of seizable crime include an increased number of cases of cheating and of prosecution under the Seditious Publications Ordinance. Seizable crime other than the above was in general slightly less than in 1930.

Reports of non-seizable offences totalled 97,965 as compared with 99,118 in 1930. In 66,901 of these cases prosecutions were undertaken by the Police.

(iii).—CHINESE SECRET SOCIETIES

The continuous war of attrition waged by the Detective Branch against gangsters and members of unlawful societies progresses very satisfactorily and it is again possible to report that the past year has been comparatively free from lawless outbreaks by gunmen and tribal factions.

The ability of societies to be dangerous depends in some measure on the possession of adequate funds. Office bearers as well as the hooligan or fighting elements have wholly or partially to be maintained from society funds and arms have to be purchased if a society or gang hopes to turn out a good striking force. Society funds are, however, believed to be at a low ebb. All members belonging to the labouring classes, whether of the artisan, seafaring, shop-keeping or ordinary coolie types are impoverished or unemployed and their contributions greatly reduced. The hooligan elements have correspondingly been weakened, likewise the moral and practical effect of their extortion and intimidation. Prostitutes and others who pay "protection money" more and more frequently find courage to report their troubles to the Police thus giving the latter valuable first hand information as to the identity of dangerous individuals. There are renewed indications also that the disappearance of the recognised brothel has further restricted the field of society extortion and intimidation. All these circumstances have contributed towards the maintenance of peace and, when serious trouble has actually threatened to break out, have enabled the Police either to anticipate it or to quell it before it has assumed dangerous dimensions. In spite of increased Police efficiency and the influence of economic conditions, threats and actual disturbances have been by no means infrequent.

The decline in the importance and influence of the older Hokkien societies continues and there has been little or no liaison between the various societies and pangkengs. Of the numerous fights attributed to these societies and factions only three were the direct result of inter-society rivalry, usually the most prolific and dangerous cause.

All other fights had their origin in quarrels concerning debts, sexual jealousy or the performance of work by individuals or pangkengs. Cases of this last named nature were noticeably frequent in the third quarter of the year, probably due to the prolonged depression.

Punitive action kept Teo Chiu societies well under control. There were less than a dozen cases of actual fighting but several attempts were nipped in the bud by well informed Police action.

The satisfactory position existing at the end of 1930 regarding Cantonese societies was more than maintained during 1931 and the Settlement was quite free from serious crime organised by Cantonese criminal gangs. A number of serious offences committed by Cantonese have no society significance. Constant attrition and punitive action kept them in such a state of chaos and caused such a general feeling of insecurity that many gangsters removed from the Settlement to Johore and the Federated Malay States. Co-operation with the Forces up country was fairly effective and detectives from the Colony sent up for the purpose rendered some assistance in identifying fugitives from Singapore. Some of these fugitives drifted back to the Settlement in the middle of the year and made unsuccessful efforts to re-organise.

Penang and Malacca continued to be remarkably free from society activity.

C.—PRISONS

At the beginning of the year there were 2,069 prisoners in the five Prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island). Twenty-one thousand five hundred and eighteen were admitted during the year as compared with 20,520 during 1930 and 21,701 were discharged. One thousand eight hundred and eighty-six remained at the end of the year. There were 229 vagrants in the Houses of Detention at the beginning of the year; during the year 1,852 were admitted and 1,787 were discharged.

"Middle-grade" prisoners are employed on industrial labour such as printing, book-binding, tailoring, carpentry, washing, weaving, shoe-making and mat and basket-making.

The "Upper-grade" men are mostly employed as cooks, orderlies, clerks, etc., the "Lower-Grade" men at husk-beating and the "Short-Sentence" and "Revenue-grade" men at husk-beating and fatigue duties.

Remission of sentence may be earned by prisoners sentenced to Penal Servitude or Rigorous Imprisonment for terms of three months and over.

Juvenile prisoners are kept separate from adult prisoners as far as conditions permit.

At present, time is not allowed for the payment of fines but this question is under consideration.

Under Section 283 of the Criminal Procedure Code Courts may, in their discretion, release on probation any first offender convicted of theft, cheating or any other offence punishable with not more than two years' imprisonment.

The health of the prisoners has been satisfactory throughout the year and the rations have been good and adequate.

D.—REFORMATORIES

The Reformatory, Singapore, is the only institution in the Straits Settlements for the incarceration of juvenile offenders. It is under the control of the Director of Education and it is not in any way connected with Prisons administration. Juvenile offenders and destitute male children between the ages of 7 and 16 are admitted. No boy is detained in it beyond the age of 18.

At the end of 1930 the inmates numbered 108. Fifty were released and 68 admitted during 1931. At the end of 1931 there were thus 126 inmates.

Of the 68 boys admitted during the year, 49 were from the Straits Settlements, 18 from the Federated Malay States and 1 from the Unfederated Malay States. Fifty were Chinese, 4 were Malays and 14 were Indians. Fifty-four were committed for criminal offences including attempted extortion, criminal breach of trust, membership of an unlawful society, fraudulent possession of property, culpable homicide not amounting to murder, possession of counterfeit coins,

housebreaking, cheating, voluntarily causing hurt and theft, the being 37 cases of the last mentioned offence. Of the remainder 13 were committed for vagrancy and one as being uncontrollable.

The conduct of the boys was excellent, and their health was very good. They were employed as carpenters, tailors, cooks, rubber tappers, grass cutters, gardeners, washermen, orderlies and general coolies. They were all taught Romanised Malay for two hours daily with the exception of nine who continued their education in English. Muslim boys were given religious instruction. The chief forms of exercise insisted upon or indulged in were physical drill, football, volley ball, cricket and boxing.

Boys released who had no parents or relatives or friends were either found work or were adopted by respectable persons recommended by the Chinese Protectorate.

Electricity was installed throughout the Reformatory and Quarters in the course of the year.

CHAPTER XIV

Legislation

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year 1931. Of these two were Supply Ordinances and twelve were purely Amending Ordinances.

The list of Ordinances which are not Amending Ordinances is as follows:—

- (1) The Registration of Criminals Ordinance (No. 4) which provides for the registration of criminals in place of section 8 of Ordinance No. 18 (Prisons).
- (2) The Court of Criminal Appeal Ordinance (No. 5) which provides for the establishment of a Court of Criminal Appeal in the Straits Settlements. Its provisions follow, as closely as local circumstances permit, the provisions of the Criminal Appeal Act, 1907.
- (3) The Registration of United Kingdom Designs Ordinance (No. 6) which makes provision for the registration in the Colony of Designs registered in the United Kingdom.
- (4) The Admiralty Waters Ordinance (No. 12) which provides for the control of certain territorial waters of the Colony and prohibits the carrying out of dredging operations or the placing of obstructions within such area.
- (5) The Public Works Department Titles Ordinance (No. 15) which alters the titles of the Colonial Engineer and Deputy Colonial Engineer to those of "Director of Public Works" and "Deputy Director of Public Works" respectively.

- (6) The Medical Department Titles Ordinance (No. 16) which alters the title of the Principal Civil Medical Officer to that of "Director of Medical and Health Services".

The list of Amending Ordinances is as follows:—

- (1) The Petroleum (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1) which allows the transport of petroleum between sunset and sunrise in proper cases.
- (2) The Minor Offences (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2) which gives effect to a number of amendments which have been found necessary.
- (3) The Quarantine and Prevention of Disease (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 3) which prohibits the importation into the Colony of the virus of yellow fever.
- (4) The Malacca Lands Customary Rights (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 7) which permits of the imposition, at the time of the recognition of a holder of customary land, of a condition prohibiting the planting of rubber.
- (5) The Tan Tock Seng's Hospital (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 8) which empowers the Committee of Management to elect Unofficial Members of the Committee and to fill vacancies as they occur.
- (6) The Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 9) which repeals the section of Ordinance No. 22 of 1928 providing for the suspension or abatement of the pension of an officer who accepts further public service.
- (7) The Railways (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10) which further amends Ordinance No. 90 (Railways) in respect of the liabilities of the railway administration for the loss of the passengers' luggage and provides for the establishment of motor services.
- (8) The Machinery (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 11) which gives legislative effect to the recommendations of the Machinery Committee appointed by the Governor.
- (9) The Societies (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14) which provides that the membership by a resident in the Colony of a society organised outside Malaya is not prohibited by Ordinance No. 116 (Societies).
- (10) The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 17) which imposes a duty on bets made on the totalisator at race-meetings and also on sweepstakes promoted by racing clubs or associations.
- (11) The Admiralty Waters (Amendment) (No. 18) Ordinance which corrects an error in respect of the western boundary of Admiralty waters.

- (12) The Estate Duty (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 19) which imposes a new scale of duties on estates exceeding \$100,000.

The Subsidiary Legislation issued during the year was as follows:—

- (1) Ordinance No. 1 (Printing Presses)—Under the powers conferred on the Governor in Council by section 21 (1) it is provided in *Gazette* Notification No. 1647 of 21st August, 1931, that the premises at which the press is to be kept or used shall be approved by a Health Officer as being suitable for the trade and in a sanitary condition.
- (2) Ordinance No. 42 (Machinery). Rules made by the Governor in Council under section 4 for the inspection and control of Machinery are published in *Gazette* Notification No. 2142 of 30th October, 1931.
- (3) Ordinance No. 80 (Military Manœuvres)—Under the powers conferred on the Governor in Council by section 9 it is proclaimed in *Gazette* Notifications Nos. 1132 of 5th June, 1931, 1169 of 12th June, 1931, and 2482 of 18th December, 1931, that the areas specified in the respective Schedules thereto shall be firing grounds. Rules made by the Officer Commanding the Troops under section 16 and approved by Legislative Council are published in *Gazette* Notification No. 1365 of 10th July, 1931.
- (4) Ordinance No. 88 (Wild Animals and Birds)—Under the powers conferred on the Governor in Council by section 2 (c) it is provided in *Gazette* Notification No. 380 of 27th February, 1931, that the killing or taking of the wild bird commonly known as the Christmas Island Fruit Pigeon is prohibited within the area of Christmas Island for the period of one year from the date of the publication of the notification.
- (5) Ordinance No. 117 (Chandu Revenue)—Rules made by the Governor in Council under section 40 (1) to regulate the management of Examination Stations are published in *Gazette* Notification No. 1823 of 18th September, 1931.
- (6) Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal)—By-laws for the licensing of touts made under sections 57 (aa1) and 318 (j) and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 1023 of 15th May, 1931, were confirmed as amended by the Governor in Council in *Gazette* Notification No. 1350 of 3rd July, 1931;

By-laws for the licensing and control of places in which animals are kept in captivity for sale, etc., made under

section 11 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance, 1930 and section 57 (1) (ff) of Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) and published in *Gazette* Notification No. 859 of 24th April, 1931, were confirmed by the Governor in Council in *Gazette* Notification No. 1347 of 3rd July, 1931;

By-laws for the suppression of cruelty, by overloading, to draught cattle and buffaloes made under section 57 (1) (cc) of Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 1121 of 29th May, 1931, were confirmed by the Governor in Council in *Gazette* Notification No. 1307 of 26th June, 1931;

By-laws for the control and management of Public Swimming Baths made under sections 57 (1) (o) (v-vii) and 167 (1) of Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 2030 of 9th October, 1931, were confirmed by the Governor in Council in *Gazette* Notification No. 2248 of 13th November, 1931;

By-laws for the regulation of the transport and storage of Petroleum and Dangerous Petroleum and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 2139 of 23rd October, 1931, were confirmed by the Governor in Council, under section 29 of Ordinance No. 109 (Petroleum) in *Gazette* Notification No. 2298 of 20th November, 1931;

By-laws for the supervision and control of lifts made under section 57 (1) (ee) of Ordinance No. 135 (Municipal) and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 2029 of 9th October, 1931, were confirmed by the Governor in Council in *Gazette* Notification No. 2359 of 27th November, 1931.

- (7) Ordinance No. 139 (Sale of Food and Drugs)—Under the powers conferred on the Governor in Council by section 28 (1) (h) it is provided in *Gazette* Notification No. 288 of 13th February, 1931, that the sale, advertisement for sale or importation into the Colony of cosmetics containing lead or any compound thereof is prohibited.
- (8) Ordinance No. 158 (Tobacco Duties)—Rules made by the Governor in Council under section 59 (1) to regulate the examination of the person and baggage of persons landing at ports and the management of examination stations are published in *Gazette* Notification No. 1513 of 31st July, 1931.
- (9) Ordinance No. 183 (Statistics)—Rules are made by the Governor in Council under section 7 and published as *Gazette* Notification No. 2220 of 13th November, 1931, requiring every estate to furnish a monthly return of

stocks of rice held at the end of each month and also the number of acres cultivated under foodstuffs.

- (10) Immigration Restriction Ordinance, 1928—Proclamations dated 24th January, 1931, 29th April, 1931, and 1st August, 1931, respectively restrict the entry of adult male Chinese immigrant labourers into the Colony for a further period of three months as it is considered that the entry of such labourers is likely to cause unemployment.

Proclamation dated 29th September, 1931, permits the entry into the Colony of 2,500 adult male Chinese immigrant labourers in each month for a period of three months commencing from 1st October, 1931.

- (11) Deleterious Drugs Ordinance, 1927—Under the powers conferred on the Governor in Council by section 41 it is published in *Gazette* Notification No. 1366 of 10th July, 1931, that diamorphine preparations are exempted from the provisions of the Ordinance.

- (12) Liquors Revenue Ordinance, 1927—Rules made by the Governor in Council under section 90 (1) to regulate the examination of the person and baggage of persons landing at ports and the management of examination stations are published in *Gazette* Notification No. 1512 of 31st July, 1931.

As regards factory legislation, Ordinance No. 42 (Machinery) makes provision for the inspection of boilers, engines and other machinery and for regulating their control and working. The previous rules framed by the Governor in Council for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the Ordinance have recently been consolidated and amended, and were published as Notification No. 2142 in the *Gazette* of the 30th October, 1931, prior to confirmation by resolution of Legislative Council.

Ordinance No. 197 (Labour) also contains numerous provisions aiming at the amelioration of the conditions under which labourers perform their work, and also contains provisions similar to those of the Truck Acts in England.

As regards compensation for accidents, section 8 of Ordinance No. 111 (Civil Law) makes provisions for compensation similar to those adopted in Lord Campbell's Act (The Fatal Accidents Act, 1846). At present there is no legislation in the Colony corresponding to the Workmen's Compensation Acts in England, but a Bill to provide for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accident has been introduced in the Legislative Council and it is expected that the Bill will shortly become law.

No legislative provisions exist for insurance against sickness or old age.

CHAPTER XV

Public Finance and Taxation

The revenue for the year 1931 amounted to \$26,601,527.65 which was less than the original estimate by \$5,342,774.35 but was slightly in excess of the revised estimate of \$26,325,690.

The expenditure was \$46,802,558.03 being \$826,322.97 less than the original estimate. It included, however, a sum of \$2,116,083.27 charged for depreciation in the value of Surplus Funds Investments in order to reduce them to market value on 31st December, 1931. It will be seen therefore that in respect of the ordinary Revenue and Expenditure Headings the year's working resulted in a deficit of about \$18.1 millions. The total deficit was \$20.2 millions approximately.

(i).—REVENUE

The revenue, was \$5,806,777.78 less than that of 1930. Details are shown in the Table below.—

REVENUE

Heads of Revenue	1930	1931	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Port, Harbour, Wharf and Light Dues ...	2,529.50	2,404.24	...	125.26
2. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ...	21,576,421.14	16,651,059.40	...	4,925,361.74
3. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements-in-Aid ...	1,209,820.23	1,149,958.33	...	59,861.90
4. Posts and Telegraphs ...	2,301,230.77	2,136,784.83	...	164,445.94
5. Rents on Govt. Property ...	1,833,196.95	1,750,990.63	...	82,206.32
6. Interest ...	3,488,995.43	3,808,466.24	319,470.81	...
7. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	1,202,088.32	859,745.75	...	342,342.57
Total exclusive of Land Sales and grants-in-aid ...	31,614,282.34	26,359,409.42	319,470.81	5,574,343.73
8. Land Sales ...	794,023.09	211,132.52	...	582,890.57
	32,408,305.43	26,570,541.94	319,470.81	6,157,234.30
9. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund ...	...	30,985.71	30,985.71	...
TOTAL REVENUE ...	32,408,305.43	26,601,527.65	350,456.52	6,157,234.30

As compared with 1930 the decline in Revenue of \$4,925,361.74 under the head Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified is chiefly attributable to a decrease in the revenue under the following sub-heads:—

Opium	..	..	..	\$2,755,960.00
Estate Duties	..	..	..	333,581.00
Stamp Duties	..	..	..	309,171.00
Tobacco Duties	..	..	..	744,136.00
Liquors	..	..	..	868,655.00

The decrease under Fees of Court, etc., is due to a drop in the collection of Quarantine and port Health Expenses recoverable.

The decrease under Posts and Telegraphs is due to general trade depression.

The decrease under Rents on Government Property is due to smaller receipts in Malacca from Land Rents, \$59,618.03, and Forest Revenue, \$13,360. In the case of the former part of the decrease is due to the policy of Government in regard to the payment of quit rent by instalments and to the remission or deferment of rents on swamp areas on estates, and part to delay in payment of arrears owing to anticipations that quit rents would be reduced.

Miscellaneous Receipts for 1931 show a large decrease. This is accounted for by the fact that the 1930 figures included a sum of \$286,796.49 on account of nett profit on exchange when redeeming the 5½% Conversion Loan 1919—29.

The increase under Interest is due to interest received on new loans made in 1931 and also to the sum of \$67,866 interest due by the Trengganu Government for the 2nd half of 1930 which was adjusted in 1931.

Land Sales as might be expected under present trade conditions show a considerable falling off.

(ii).—EXPENDITURE

Particulars of expenditure are set out in the Table Appended.—

Heads of Expenditure	1930	1931	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charge on account of the Public Debt ...	37,083.40	37,083.40	...	..
2. Pensions, Retired Allowance, Gratuities, etc. ...	1,795,839.15	1,836,088.10	40,248.95	...
3. Charitable Allowances ...	26,645.71	44,340.18	17,694.47	...
4. The Governor ...	144,505.31	141,151.68	...	3,353.63
5. Civil Service ...	671,972.50	705,898.21	33,925.71	...
6. General Clerical Service ...	1,018,297.86	1,090,904.62	72,606.76	...
7. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillors and Resident	127,528.58	134,166.42	6,637.84	...
8. Secretary to High Commissioner ...	10,403.52	11,193.35	789.83	...
9. Agricultural Department ...	87,865.03	96,270.10	8,405.07	...
10. Analyst ...	...	9,530.66	9,530.66	...
11. Audit ...	28,434.34	32,294.43	3,860.09	...
12. Audit, External ...	1,224.01	23,578.73	...	24,802.74
13. Chinese Secretariat ...	217,860.05	211,184.60	...	6,675.45
14. Co-operative Societies ...	32,874.36	36,535.60	3,661.24	...
15. Ecclesiastical ...	24,225.45	24,700.00	474.55	...
16. Education ...	1,536,663.10	1,937,027.44	400,364.34	...
17. Fisheries ...	41,656.99	38,510.30	...	3,146.69
18. Forests ...	101,910.48	75,181.30	...	26,729.18
19. Gardens, Botanical ...	113,561.62	121,890.23	8,328.61	...
20. Labour Department ...	27,166.26	63,097.81	35,931.55	...
21. Land and District Offices ...	274,496.92	255,148.85	...	19,348.07
22. Legal ...	386,494.09	397,354.82	10,860.73	...
23. Marine ...	640,818.79	652,382.73	11,563.24	...
24. Marine Surveys ...	72,300.19	87,197.31	14,897.12	...
25. Medical ...	468,412.21	452,919.31	...	15,492.90
26. Medical, Health Branch ...	681,381.32	717,479.57	36,098.25	...
27. Medical, Social Hygiene Branch ...	116,697.22	125,724.94	9,027.72	...
28. Medical, Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	2,349,760.60	2,443,878.95	94,118.35	...
29. Military Expenditure—				
I. Defence Contribution ...	4,239,728.54	4,189,285.65	...	50,442.89
II. Local Forces ...	579,149.59	576,813.76	...	2,335.83
30. Miscellaneous Services ...	7,428,925.31	11,589,314.90	4,160,389.59	...
31. Monopolies ...	1,664,402.15	1,340,838.01	...	323,564.14
32. Museum and Library, Raffles ...	57,921.89	57,643.79	...	278.10
33. Police ...	3,187,680.87	3,290,873.95	103,193.08	...
34. Post Office ...	2,077,685.44	2,299,770.95	222,085.51	...
35. Printing Office ...	266,660.10	268,231.67	1,571.57	...
36. Prisons ...	492,698.69	495,313.96	2,615.27	...
37. Public Works Department...	558,728.08	666,031.08	107,303.00	...
38. Public Works Recurrent Expenditure ...	983,226.51	1,048,606.03	65,379.52	...
39. Public Works, Extraordinary ...	5,658,712.66	8,197,700.40	2,538,987.74	...
40. Statistics ...	33,070.90	40,062.53	6,991.63	...
41. Survey Department ...	415,537.60	423,531.22	7,993.62	...
42. Transport ...	385,753.11	375,464.63	...	10,288.48
43. Treasury ...	104,068.53	107,622.78	3,554.25	...
44. Veterinary ...	70,285.58	73,134.83	2,849.25	...
45. Colonial Development Fund--Grants-in-Aid ...	...	6,762.41	6,762.41	...
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	39,240,314.61	46,802,558.03	8,048,701.52	486,458.10

(a) Expenditure Credit

The increase under Pensions, etc., is mainly due to new pensions of Widows and Orphans and gratuities to families of deceased officers.

The increase under Charitable Allowances is due to an increased contribution to the Poh Leung Kuk Home, Singapore.

Under Civil Service increments and promotions within the service are responsible for the increase.

The increase under General Clerical Service is on account of increments and to the appointment of additional Grade III clerks.

The 1930 expenditure of the Analyst's Department was included under the Medical Department.

The opening of new schools mainly accounts for the large increase in the expenditure of the Education Department.

The large increase under Labour is due to payment of the cost of repatriating Indian Labourers from Malaya for the 1st half year 1931, during the year instead of in the following year as was the practice hitherto.

Under Medical General, the decrease is partly due to the establishment of the Analyst's Department as a separate department.

Under Medical, Health Branch the increase is due to an increase in Personal Emoluments and also to the construction of two lighters for transporting passengers to and from St. John's Island Quarantine Station.

The increase under Medical, Hospital and Dispensaries is mainly due to an increase in Personal Emoluments.

Miscellaneous Services: The excess under Miscellaneous Services is principally due to payments in respect of the following items:—

	\$	c.
Balance of Colony's share of the Railway deviation from Bukit Timah to Tanjong Pagar	2,288,320	00
Depreciation in value of Surplus Fund investments in order to reduce them to market value as on 31st December, 1931	2,116,083	27

This adjustment was made in pursuance of instructions issued by the Secretary of State.

Over a quarter of a million of the decrease under Monopolies is accounted for by a decrease in Working Expenses. The balance is due to decrease in the cost of maintenance of Government shops.

The principal reasons for the increase under Police are the filling of vacancies in the Establishment which existed in 1930, increments

due to the operation of salary schemes and heavier expenditure under Other Charges.

Under Post Office the increase is due to the installation of Carrier Current Telephony between the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

Under Public Works the increases are entirely due to the larger programme of work which is being undertaken and it has been necessary to strengthen the personnel very considerably in order to cope with it.

Exclusive of Defence Contribution the following table shows the Colony's expenditure for the last five years and the portion of it which has been spent on Public Works.—

<i>Year</i>		<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>Public Works Extraordinary</i>
—		—	—
		\$	\$
1927	..	.. 33,950,061	6,184,886
1928	..	.. 31,047,608	5,489,873
1929	..	.. 31,936,283	5,133,968
1930	..	.. 35,000,586	5,658,712
1931	..	.. 42,613,272	8,197,700

The amount paid as Defence Contribution for the last five years are:—

		\$
1927	..	.. 5,303,000
1928	..	.. 3,960,000
1929	..	.. 3,775,714
1930	..	.. 4,239,728
1931	..	.. 4,189,286

Refunds of \$139,500 and \$454,397, received in 1928 and 1929 in respect of overpayment in the financial years 1926—1927 and 1927—1928 respectively are not included in the above figures.

(iii).—ASSETS AND

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December,

					\$	c.	\$	c.
<i>Liabilities</i>								
Deposits :—								
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund ...					45,892,310.49			
Court					877,656.55			
Bankruptcy					901,324.36			
Mercantile Marine Fund					737,778.35			
Police Reward Fund					4,395.13			
Penang and Districts, Miscellaneous					380,671.99			
Malacca and Districts, Miscellaneous					153,090.66			
Miscellaneous					1,994,805.27			
							50,942,032.80	
Drafts and Remittances ... ..					...		49,106.85	
Suspense Account :—								
Suspense Account	{	Coin for reminting, etc.			2,578,548.04			
		Interest Currency Commissioners			62,203.15			
		Other items			439,285.69			
							3,080,036.88	
Loans :—								
Straits Settlements 5½% War Loan 1918–1928					1,400.00			
Straits Settlements 6% Loan 1916					1,900.00			
Straits Settlements 5½% Conversion Loan 1919–1929					3,100.00			
							6,400.00	
Surplus ... ..					...		56,171,577.19	
TOTAL ... ..					...		110,249,153.72	

The surplus on 31st December, 1931, amounted to \$56,171,577

Against this Commitments on loans already approved to public \$9,417,935. In addition the estimated deficit on the Budget for 1932 therewith amounting to \$9,397,665 had to be met. The total to \$33,961,027.

LIABILITIES

1931, were as follows:—

		\$	c.	\$	c.
Assets					
Investments :—					
Colony	{ Crown Agents on Deposit	\$27,441,481.12			
	{ Fixed Deposit	2,650,000.00			
	{ Miscellaneous	758,682.04			
				30,850,163.16	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	...	45,892,310.41			
Bankruptcy	...	775,676.96			
Mercantile Marine Fund	...	643,876.32			
Other Investments	...	1,094,568.33			
					79,256,595.18
Advances	...				2,417,140.36
Imprests	...				1,331.67
Cash in Transit	...				42,207.63
Suspense Account	...				386,960.00
Suspense Account Nickel Coin	...				84,341.61
Suspense Account Subsidiary Coins held by the F. M. S. Treasury	...				92,450.00
Loans :—					
Municipality, Singapore		\$2,366,393.54			
Municipality, Penang		75,000.00			
Municipality, Malacca		390,954.11			
				2,832,347.65	
Brunei Government	...			4,000.00	
Kelantan Government	...			5,130,683.98	
Trengganu Government	...			3,714,843.57	
Singapore Harbour Board	...			4,845,899.03	
Penang Harbour Board	...			2,778,525.50	
Mohamedan and Hindu Endowment Board, Penang	...			53,250.00	
Singapore Cricket Club	...			6,683.33	
Stadium Association	...			13,000.00	
S. S. War Service Land Grants Scheme	...			106,690.66	
Singapore Improvement Trust	...			250,000.00	
					19,735,923.72
Indian Agency Account	...				47,358.15
Cash	...				8,184,845.40
TOTAL					110,240,153.72

of which approximately \$33½ millions were liquid.

bodies in the Colony and to other administrations amounted to amounting to \$15,145,427 and further commitments in connection commitments on 1st January, 1932, against the surplus thus amounted

(iv).—PUBLIC DEBT

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the Loan raised by the issue of 3½ per cent Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provisions of Ordinance No. 98 (Loan) amounted, on the 31st December, 1931, to £6,913,352 of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

The expenditure upon Services in respect of which this loan was raised stands as follows:—

	\$
Singapore Harbour Board	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore ..	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang ..	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	320,137
	<hr/> 55,869,097
Loan Expenses and Cost of Conversion (1907 Loan) less interest received ..	3,388,205
	<hr/> 59,257,302 <hr/>

The charge on account of interest on, and expenses of, this loan was \$2,079,909 in 1931. This charge is however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and other bodies to whom portions of the loans have been allotted. The value of the investments of the Sinking Fund of this loan on the 31st December, 1931, was approximately \$12,067,500.

The indebtedness of the Colony under the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States Victory Loan 1920 stands at \$15,074,300. The principal and the major portion of the interest on this loan is payable by His Majesty's Government.

The Sterling Loan issued under the provisions of Ordinance No. 182 (Straits Settlements Loan No. II) amounted to \$80,185,714 (£9,355,000). The whole of the proceeds has been handed over to the Federated Malay States Government, which has legislated for the payment of the interest and charges in connection with the Loan and of Sinking Fund Contributions to extinguish it.

(v).—TAXATION

Revenue from taxation is mainly derived from duties on liquors, tobacco, and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony, and from the profits on the Opium monopoly which is entirely controlled by the Government. The other main items are stamp duties, estate (death) duties, and Pawnbrokers licences which are issued to successful tenderers on payment of a monthly rent for a period of three years.

The yield from direct taxation is small and all of it obtained from licences.

The total revenue under the main head of Duties, Taxes and Licences for the year 1931 was \$16,651,059 forming the greater portion of the Colony's revenue, and the yields under the principal items were as follows:—

			\$
Liquors	..	..	3,040,000
Opium Revenue	..	..	6,074,735
Pawnbrokers' Licences	..	..	655,134
Petroleum Revenue	..	..	1,469,509
Stamp Duties (various revenue services)			609,565
Stamp Duties (Estate Duties)	..		667,399
Tobacco duties	..	..	3,400,751

The only fiscal measure approximating to a customs tariff is the imposition of duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony. All these duties were revised in September, 1931, and at the end of the year were as follows:—

Liquors.—Duties on liquors varied from \$14 per proof gallon on spirits to \$1.20 per gallon on still wines and beer and similar beverages of low alcoholic strength.

Tobacco.—Duties ranged from \$1.60 per pound in the case of Cigars and Snuff to 70 cents per pound for Unmanufactured Tobacco.

Petroleum.—The duty on petroleum used for domestic purposes, such as kerosine, was 5 cents per gallon, but petroleum with a flashing point below 73 degrees Fahrenheit, (*i.e.*, motor spirit), was liable to a duty of 35 cents per gallon.

These duties are imposed solely for revenue purposes.

Excise revenue is comprised principally of the revenue from the opium monopoly and from duties on intoxicating liquors manufactured in the Colony. In the latter case the duties are seven-tenths of the amounts prescribed for imported liquors of similar brand. The only liquor manufactured locally which is subject to this duty is samsoo. In addition the Government itself controls most of the manufacture and sale of toddy but the revenue is so far unimportant.

Stamp Duties including Estate (Death) Duties form an important source of revenue. Estate duties were revised during the year with effect from 1st January, 1932, and progress from a minimum of 1% on estates with a principal value of over \$1,000 to 20% on estates with a principal value of over \$10,000,000.

Stamp Duties are imposed on all documents required to be stamped under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance, 1929. The principal duties are:—

Agreement under hand only	25 cents.
Bill of Exchange including Promissory Note ..	5 cents for every \$100 or part thereof.
Cheque	4 cents.
Conveyance Maximum — ..	\$1.50 for every \$250 or part thereof.
Mortgage Maximum — ..	\$1 for every \$500 or part thereof.
Receipt	4 cents.

CHAPTER XVI

Miscellaneous

A.—PRINCIPAL LANGUAGES

Malay, as well as being the language of the Malay inhabitants of the Colony, is also, in a modified form, the language spoken in the homes of the majority of the Straits-born Chinese, particularly in Malacca.

Early Muslim traders, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English have all used and spread it as a *lingua franca* so that it has become, in a much debased form, the language of the shop and the market for the Colony's cosmopolitan population. Signs are not lacking, however, that it is gradually being superseded by English as the language of commerce.

Malay, as well as the languages of such immigrants to the Straits Settlements as the Bugis from the Celebes, Sundanese, Madurese and Javanese, and the Minangkabau people of Sumatra, belongs to the western branch of the Austronesian family which covers an area from Formosa to New Zealand and from Madagascar to Easter Island. Even within this western branch, however, languages differ more widely than English from Dutch or French from Italian.

With Islam the Malays adopted the Persian form of the Arabic alphabet but there is a growing literature in romanised script.

The Chinese languages spoken in the Straits Settlements are those of the districts in the south of China, principally in the Kwangtung and Fukien Provinces, from which the immigration is almost entirely drawn.

Figures based on the Census for 1931 shew the extent to which the various languages are spoken to be: Hokkien, 43.2%; Cantonese, 21.4%; Tiu Chiu, 17.4%; Hakka (Kheh), 7.9%; Hailam, 5.4%; Hok Chhia, 1.5%; Hok Chiu, 1.3%; and other dialects, 1.9%.

Of the Southern Indians who form over nine-tenths of the total Indian population practically all speak one or other of the Dravidian languages, Tamil, Telugu or Malayalam. The vast majority (over 90%) speak Tamil, and of the remainder the Malayalis are about three times as numerous as the Telugus.

The remaining Indian population consists of Northern Indians whose principal languages are Punjabi, Bengali, and Hindustani, with a few hundreds from Bombay Presidency, who speak Gujerati and Mahrati, and a negligible number of Burmese and Nepalese.

B.—LAND TENURE

Singapore.—Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown either by lease or grant. The earliest of the existing titles are the 999-year leases issued for land in the town soon after the founding of Singapore.

The first of the present 99-year leases for land in the town was issued in 1838.

From 1845 onwards a large number of freehold grants were issued for land outside the limits of the town. The margin allowed for the expansion of the town was, however, insufficient, with the result that land in the most densely crowded part of the present town is occasionally found to be held under titles which were originally issued for land required for agricultural purposes. In the case of town lands the issue of 99-year leases continued.

After the transfer to the Colonial Office in 1867 the titles issued for land both in town and country were 99-year leases and 999-year leases. Ordinance No. II of 1886 now Ordinance No. 34 (Crown Lands) provided for a Statutory form of Crown Title—the present Statutory Land Grant, which is a grant in perpetuity subject to a quit-rent the form of which was simplified by the omission of various covenants and conditions previously inserted in leases, most of which are implied by virtue of the Statute.

The Statutory Grant has been the usual form of title issued in the past but the policy now is to restrict the issue of such Grants, substituting as far as possible leases for terms not exceeding 99-years. Monthly and annual permits are also issued for the temporary occupation of Crown Land.

Penang.—Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held from the Crown, by indenture, grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. In Penang eleven different kinds of title are in the hands of the public as compared with eighteen in Singapore. Unoccupied Crown land is now alienated under lease.

Malacca.—The tenure of a considerable portion of the land in Malacca Town has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch.

The remainder of the land in the Town is chiefly held under leases of 99-years but there are a few leases of 999-years and a few Statutory Grants.

Alienated land in the country is held under Statutory Grants or 99-year leases from the Crown in the case of estates, but small holdings owned by Malays are held under Customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Ordinance.

Labuan.—Land in Labuan is held in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 127 (Labuan) and may be alienated by public auction only.

The titles existing are leases of 999-years or less but since 1919 leases for 30-years only have been granted.

Throughout the Colony alienation of the foreshore is governed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 69 (Foreshores).

C.—CO-OPERATION

In Singapore there are seven Thrift and Loan Societies, which have increased their paid-up share capital from \$325,124 to \$415,432. Membership, which fell during the previous year, has risen from 3,149 to 3,720. The amount of loans granted during the year has increased from \$205,182 to \$307,242.

The satisfactory advance recorded last year in the amount of subscribed share capital deposited in the Bank or invested in trustee securities is still very marked; it has increased from \$243,501 on the 30th June, 1930, to \$296,072 at the close of the year.

In Malacca, the four Thrift & Loan Societies have increased in membership from 990 to 1051 and in paid-up share capital from \$87,846 to \$119,446. The amounts invested in trustee securities and deposited in the Bank have increased from \$47,259 to \$83,044 and the amount of loans granted from \$63,330 to \$68,769.

In the eight Rural Credit Societies, the paid-up share capital at the close of the year amounted to \$8,560 as compared with \$7,633 on 30th June, 1930. Membership has decreased by 6, the present number standing at 336.

In Penang and Province Wellesley, there are now eight Thrift & Loan Societies, as compared with nine in the previous year. Membership, on the other hand, has increased from 2,577 to 2,866 and the paid-up subscriptions from \$127,655 to \$182,995. The amount of loans granted during the previous year was \$96,558 as compared with \$127,583 for the year under review. The total invested in gilt-edged securities and deposited in the Bank now amounts to \$128,892 as compared with \$74,687 at the end of the previous year.

The Rural Credit Societies have decreased by two and are now six in number. The paid-up subscription is \$4,833 as against \$6,446 in the previous year. Membership has decreased from 208 to 151.

Estate Labourers' Co-operative Societies have increased from seven to eight. Membership, however, has diminished from 2,110 to 1,534, although on the other hand paid-up share capital has increased

from \$12,769 to \$19,213. The decrease in membership is undoubtedly due to the repatriation of Indian labour as a result of the present economic uncertainty in the rubber planting world.

Despite the universal trade depression, the societies generally are expanding their activities and doing excellent work in slowly clearing their members of their heavy burden of long-standing debt and in providing them with facilities for thrift and controlled credit. For this work their accumulated capital amounts to approximately \$750,000.

D.—EVENTS OF THE YEAR

Sir CECIL CLEMENTI, G.C.M.G., returned from leave on the 13th June and resumed the administration of the Government of the Colony which had been undertaken during his absence by Mr. JOHN SCOTT, C.M.G. Mr. M. B. SHELLEY acted as Colonial Secretary throughout the year.

Sir MILES LAMPSON, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., His Majesty's Minister to China, visited Singapore in February.

His Excellency the Governor-General of the Philippine Islands, Mr. DWIGHT F. DAVIS, visited Singapore in March in the U.S.S. "Pittsburg".

The German Cruiser "Emden" paid a visit to the Colony, calling at Labuan and the Cocos Islands.

The New Year Honours List contained the following names:—

Miss D. M. BUCKLE, O.B.E. (Civil Division).

Lieut. SYED SALLEH ALSAGOFF, M.B.E. (Military Division).

Battery Sergeant-Major T. O. MAYHEW, M.B.E. (Military Division).

The following honours were conferred at the Birthday:—

His Excellency Sir CECIL CLEMENTI, G.C.M.G.

Dr. A. L. HOOPS, C.B.E. (Civil Division).

Major R. R. ROBERTSON, O.B.E. (Military Division).

Lieut. KOH KENG BOCK, M.B.E. (Military Division).

The decennial census of the population of the Colony was held on the 2nd April, the arrangements being under the superintendence of Mr. C. A. VLIELAND, M.C.S.

The duties on liquors, tobacco and petrol were increased as from the 28th September as a revenue measure.

The Commission appointed by the Governor to enquire into the question of reduction or merger in salaries of Temporary Allowances submitted its Report. These allowances were reduced by half with effect from the 1st June, 1931, and were entirely abolished as from the 1st January, 1932.

The Committee set up to consider the replanning of Empress Place and the rebuilding of the Old Government Offices, the Supreme Court and Town Hall concluded its deliberations.

In July His Excellency the Governor appointed a **Cor** under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. E. CATOR, M.C.S., to **inv** the practicability of the Colony participating in a Customs **Ur** Malaya.

In October a Retrenchment Committee was appointed **t** a full enquiry into the expenditure of the Government **on I** Emoluments, Other Charges of a recurrent nature, and **and** Expenditure and commitments as shewn in the Colonial **Estin**

The Wild Life Commission continued its sittings **un** Chairmanship of Mr. THEODORE HUBBACK.

Major-General H. L. PRITCHARD, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., was **su** by Major-General L. C. L. OLDFIELD, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., as **as** Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, and Captain E. THOMPSON, D.S.O., R.N., was succeeded by Captain M. BROCK **B** D.S.O., R.N., as Captain-in-Charge of His Majesty's Naval **Est** ments. Group Captain A. H. JACKSON continued in command **and** Royal Air Force, Far East.

JOHN SCOTT,
Colonial Secretary
Straits Settlements

SINGAPORE, 10th August, 1932.

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Annual Report on the Social and Economic
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NEW HEBRIDES, 1931

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW HEBRIDES, 1931

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The New Hebrides lie between the 13th and 21st degrees of South latitude, and the 166th and 170th degrees of East longitude, and are of an area of roughly 5,700 square miles.

The Group includes those of the Banks and Torres, the former lying a few miles due north of the main Group, and the latter about 40 miles to the north-west of the Banks, the whole forming an irregular double chain some 440 miles in length.

The largest island of the Group is Santo, of an area of approximately 1,500 square miles, and a coastline of about 200 miles. The southern and western sides are very mountainous and rugged, some of the ranges rising to a height of over 6,000 feet. The next largest island is Malekula, which although very much broken up by mountain ranges is not so mountainous as Santo.

Other larger islands in their order of importance are Efate, Ambrym, Erromanga, Epi, Aoba, Pentecost, and Maeovo, and Gaua and Vanua Lava of the Banks Group. In addition to these are some 80 small islands and islets.

There are three active volcanoes in the Group situated on the islands of Tanna, Ambrym, and Lopevi, respectively. The first two are in a constant state of eruption, and the last named somewhat quiescent, emitting smoke and vapour at irregular intervals.

The Group possesses four good harbours, Vila and Havannah Harbours situated on the island of Efate, and Ports Sandwich and Stanley on Malekula, besides a number of good sheltered anchorages such as the Second Channel and Pallicollo on Santo, Ringdove Bay on Epi, The Maskelynes off South Malekula, Undine Bay on Efate, and Anelgahaut on Aneityum.

The Headquarters of the Administration are situated on the shores of Vila Harbour, which is also the chief commercial centre of the Group. Other important settlements are located at Epi, Malekula, and the Second Channel, Santo.

The Group is generally well watered. On the larger islands are several small rivers navigable to boats and small motor craft for a distance of some miles. The only lake of any size in the Group is found on top of the island of Gaua in the Banks Group, and is some four miles in circumference.

Climate.

The New Hebrides islands are classed as unhealthy. The climate, although very enervating is not worse than that of many other tropical places. The year is divided up, generally speaking, into two seasons, the hot and wet season, commencing in November and ending in April, and the dry and cool season from May to October. Of late, however, the tendency is for the line of demarcation to become less clear, there being considerable periods of drought in the rainy season and vice versa in the dry season. The temperature in the island of Efate ranges from a minimum of about 63° F. in the cool season to a maximum of about 89° F. in the hot. The hot season is the most unhealthy owing to the extreme humidity and the prevalence of mosquitoes. Also it is so enervating as to make recovery from an illness somewhat prolonged. The cool season is, generally speaking, healthy and very pleasant. The southern islands of the Group are cooler and healthier than the northern—the latter being about 7° F. warmer on the average.

History.

The New Hebrides Group was discovered by the Spanish explorer de Quiros in the year 1606. Under the impression that he had at last found the long-sought Southern Continent, the quest for which occupied the navigators of this period, he called it "Tierra Australis del Espiritu Santo." He anchored in a large bay to which he gave the name of St. Philip and St. James, and on the shores of a river flowing into that bay he established the settlement of La Nuova Jerusalem. To the port which undoubtedly existed in those days he gave the name of Vera Cruz. This island is to-day known as Santo. Owing to sickness, and dissensions with the natives the

settlement was soon abandoned, and to-day, so far as is known, no traces of it exist. The port of Vera Cruz has likewise disappeared, nor can its original site be traced along the 40 odd miles of coastline forming the bay.

Nothing more was heard of the Group until some 160 years later, when in 1768, the French navigator Bougainville passed to the southward of de Quiros's discovery, and sailed between the islands known to-day as Santo and Malekula, thus disproving de Quiros's claims to the discovery of the great Southern Continent. The strait through which he passed still bears his name. On the same voyage he discovered the islands of Pentecost, Aoba, and Maeovo, to which he gave the name of the Cyclades.

It remained, however, for the great navigator Captain Cook to discover and chart the greater part of the Group in the year 1774, when, entering the Group from the north, he sailed to the southward, discovering and naming the majority of the islands which form the southern chain of the Group. It is recorded that among other places visited he spent some fifteen days in the then snug little harbour of Port Resolution on the island of Tanna. Since those days, however, the floor of the harbour has risen, and where Captain Cook anchored in four fathoms of water, to-day a small launch will scarcely float.

Among other early visitors may be cited Laperouse who is supposed to have visited the Group in 1788; and d'Entrecasteaux, who came in search of Laperouse in 1793.

In the same year the Banks Islands were sighted by Bligh on the occasion of his famous voyage in an open boat to Timor after the mutiny of the *Bounty*.

Dumont d'Urville, Belcher, and Markham, are among the early voyagers whose accounts of these islands are of interest.

By virtue of the Anglo-French Convention of 16th November, 1887, whereby, among other things, each nation agreed not to exercise a separate control over the Group, a Joint Naval Commission was appointed, consisting of the respective Captains and two officers from each of the two warships which then paid periodical visits to the Group. The Commission was charged with the protection of the lives and property of the subjects of the two nations—France and England—in the islands.

By the year 1895 a number of British and French subjects had settled in the Group and the necessity was felt for some jurisdiction to deal with their disputes, in consequence of which an Arbitration Court was established by the colonists, but the Joint Naval Commission pronounced its veto and the Court was dissolved.

In 1902 the Group had assumed sufficient importance to necessitate the appointment of Resident Commissioners to deal with such judicial cases as came within their jurisdiction. In 1902 the first British Resident Commissioner was appointed, the French Government having a short time previously appointed a similar officer.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

By the Convention of 20th October, 1906, between the United Kingdom and France, British-French Condominium Government was established. The executive consists of a British and French Resident Commissioner acting in concert, assisted by a staff of officers. The Administrative Departments of the Condominium are staffed by officers of both nationalities who are subject to the control of the Resident Commissioners acting jointly. Each Power retains sovereignty over its own nationals. The seat of Government is at Vila on the island of Efate. Condominium Agents of both nationalities are established on various islands of the Group and are allotted areas of control. The executive must in all cases reach joint agreement in decisions affecting the administration of the Condominium. The principal Condominium judicial body is the Joint Court which is composed of a British and a French Judge with a President of neutral nationality. The joint services include finance, posts and telegraphs, customs, public health, lands registry, and public works.

The Convention of 1906 has been superseded by the Convention of 6th August, 1914, which was ratified in 1922.

The British and French Resident Commissioners are subordinate to their respective British and French High Commissioners. The British High Commissioner is stationed at Suva, and the French High Commissioner at Noumea.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population of the New Hebrides is composed of some forty to sixty-thousand natives, and 4,534 non-natives. A statement is appended giving details of the non-native population.

<i>Description.</i>	<i>British.</i>			<i>French.</i>			<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>Adult Males.</i>	<i>Females and Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Adult Males.</i>	<i>Females and Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
Nationals	129	98	227	320	471	791	1,018
Foreigners opted under Protocol.	14	6	20	43	2	45	65
Asiatics opted under Protocol.	29	1	30	35	—	35	65
Protected subjects and citizens*—							
Tonkinese	—	—	—	3,300			
Javanese	—	—	—	42			
Chinese	—	—	—	44			
Totals	172	105	277	398	473	4,257	4,534

* Note.—Totals only available.

The primitive state of the New Hebrides precludes the taking of any reliable census of the indigenous population. In certain islands which have been under missionary influence for a number of years it is possible to make a fairly accurate estimate of the inhabitants, but in the more uncivilized islands such as Malekula, Pentecost, and Santo, whose interiors are almost a closed book, it is not possible to form more than a rough estimate of their numbers.

Malekula is credited with the largest population of some 9,000 natives; Santo and Pentecost come next with about 7,000 each, Tanna 6,500, Aoba 6,000, Ambrym 4,000, Epi 2,500, and Efate 2,000. Among the smaller islands whose population is worthy of note may be cited Paama with just over 2,000, and Tongoa with 1,300 inhabitants.

In general the native population of the Group is on the decline, but in recent years the islands of Tanna, Paama, and Tongoa have shown a slight tendency to an increase. In this connexion it is interesting to note that the natives of these islands appear to be endowed with a keener commercial acumen than their fellows, which, entailing a necessarily increased activity, may have some bearing on their present immunity from decline.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The following is an abridged report on the health of the Group by the Chief Condominium Medical Officer:—

“Pendant l'année 1931 l'état sanitaire a été bon aux Nouvelles-Hébrides — pas d'épidémie durant l'année. Le paludisme est en regression depuis que le Service d'Hygiène fonctionne normalement et régulièrement.

Il-y-a eu peu de dysenterie excepté à Tanna où des mesures énergiques sont actuellement prises pour enrayer l'amibiase.

L'ankylostomiase est soignée sur toutes les plantations systématiquement.

Le pian diminue de plus en plus depuis que la plupart des indigènes ont été soignés. Dès le début d'une nouvelle poussée de pian, les injections incessantes sont faites.

Le nombre de médecins actuellement aux Hébrides permet de lutter victorieusement contre toutes les maladies.

Depuis le fonctionnement de l'assistance médicale du Condominium, les indigènes viennent plus nombreux près des médecins. Ils comprennent mieux qu'il est de leur intérêt de se soigner le plus tôt possible.

D'une manière générale depuis que des mesures d'hygiène ont été prises dans toutes les îles et surtout à Port-Vila la santé publique est beaucoup meilleure et grâce à l'appui que nous avons toujours reçu des deux Gouvernements conjoints, nous avons pu arriver à des résultats déjà très intéressants et notre tâche a été ainsi grandement facilitée.”

Medical Institutions.

There are eight European doctors in the Group, four hospitals, and two medical aid posts. The location of the hospitals and aid posts is as follows :—

SOUTHERN ISLANDS.

Tanna.—A well-equipped hospital run by the Presbyterian Mission, assisted by a grant from British funds. A British medical practitioner is in charge of the hospital. A Presbyterian missionary with medical training is also resident on the island, and a French medical officer has been recently posted at Tanna.

CENTRAL ISLANDS.

Efate.—There are two excellent hospitals at Vila ; the John G. Paton Memorial Hospital administered by the Presbyterian Mission and assisted by a grant from British funds, and the French Government Hospital. These hospitals have trained European staffs and are in the charge of qualified medical officers.

Epi.—There is a medical aid post on this island, and a European doctor ministers to the medical welfare of the population.

Malekula.—The French Cotton Company have established a hospital at Norsup and a European medical officer is in charge. At Port Sandwich there is a medical aid post supervised by an Annamite medical practitioner.

NORTHERN ISLANDS.

Santo.—The French Government have established a hospital in the Second Channel with a European medical officer in charge.

All these institutions are open to the indigenous population as well as white residents and Asiatics. The Condominium Government gives free medical treatment to all indigent natives.

The following is the report of the Medical Superintendent of the Paton Memorial Hospital, Vila, for the year under review :—

“ During the year ended 31st December, 1931, 640 patients were treated. Of these 295 were in-patients and 345 out-patients. As usual January and February were the busiest months of the year, all the patients reporting then were suffering from malaria and abscesses, and septic sores were more common than at any other time of the year.

Twenty-nine cases of amoebic dysentery were treated. The majority of these came in during the five months immediately following the hot season. House flies were much more abundant than usual at that season and no doubt contributed largely to the prevalence of the disease. Three of the cases were fatal. All were treated with emetine and most received an iodine preparation, yatren, by mouth in addition.

Great numbers of cases of chronic ulcers of the legs come in for treatment and all seem to benefit by injections of novarsphenamine. Acriflavine, 1 in 1,000 solution, as a moist dressing, has proved easily our most effective treatment and is relied on almost entirely now.

It is with satisfaction that we find the native women coming into hospital more freely for confinement. During the year nineteen maternity cases were admitted, seventeen being natives.

Over 500 injections of novarsphenamine were given, 240 of these in the local villages which were each visited twice during the year. Free treatment was given in the villages for hookworm.

Erromanga was visited four times, each visit extending over four days. There, over 300 injections were given for yaws. In the early part of the year an epidemic of dysentery broke out amongst the natives in the southern part of that island and about 70 cases were reported to have been fatal.

An attempt has been made to train some of the native boys in simple medicine. Two have completed the course and one of these has returned to his village and attends all the sick daily. The villagers pay him £12 annually for his services. The other boy has remained on at this hospital as dresser. A boy from Erromanga is now undergoing instruction with a view to his attending the sick on his island."

The following give statistics of the two hospitals at Vila for 1930 and 1931:—

<i>Cases.</i>	<i>British Hospital.</i>		<i>French Hospital.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Natives and Asiatics.</i>	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Natives and Asiatics.</i>	
In-patients—					
1930	46	323	197	1,134	1,700
1931	32	263	131	689	1,115
Out-patients—					
1930	34	384	1,230	7,400	9,048
1931	58	287	840	7,425	8,610
Total 1930 ...	80	707	1,427	8,534	10,748
„ 1931	90	550	971	8,114	9,725
Deaths 1930 ...	1	8	8	70	87
„ 1931	1	11	7	28	47

Diseases.

Malaria is the principal disease. It is more prevalent in the northern islands than the southern, owing to the difference in climate and rainfall. Amoebic dysentery is endemic throughout the year and epidemic in the hot season. Both these diseases are being combated with success by measures of sanitation. Black-water fever occurs occasionally among Europeans. The indigenous population suffers chiefly from yaws, hookworm, malaria, and dysentery. The various hospitals in the Group, both Government and Missionary, treat the natives for these complaints.

Sanitation.

Sanitation in the islands of the Group is only in the early stages of development but some progress has been made at Vila, the

capital, during the past few years. The water-supply is rain water collected into large tanks with which all houses are equipped. This system has the disadvantage of providing breeding places for mosquitoes unless adequately protected or periodically treated with kerosene oil. On the other hand, it provides a pure source of supply and cases of water contamination are extremely rare.

All Government houses in Vila are supplied with septic tanks which, with reasonable care, prove satisfactory, otherwise the pit system of latrine is adopted by most residents.

The disposal of refuse is undertaken under Condominium arrangements and disposed of by incineration. Since the inauguration of this service the general appearance of the town of Vila has greatly improved.

Sanitary legislation provides for the inspection of all meat tendered for human consumption, and for the inspection of private and public premises. A Government quarantine station has been established on the north side of the entrance to Vila Harbour.

Medical campaign against hookworm and yaws.

This campaign which commenced in 1928 with a view to eradicating these two diseases from which the natives suffer, was terminated during the year under report. The number of treatments for hookworm during the campaign was 27,699, and in the case of yaws 28,897. There is no doubt but that the campaign has had a most beneficial effect on the native population of the Group.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Houses occupied by Europeans in the Group are usually of the one storey bungalow type of two or more rooms surrounded by verandahs. They are generally constructed of wood and galvanized iron. Owing to the frequency of earthquake shocks buildings of brick, stone, or concrete, are not favoured.

In the more civilized areas natives are gradually adapting themselves to European ideas of construction, and a marked improvement in native dwelling houses is noticeable in villages adjacent to Vila.

In the outlying islands, mission natives favour dwelling houses constructed of lime mortar, which is a great improvement on the grass humpy of former days, and far more comfortable and sanitary.

The non-mission or heathen native still clings to the insanitary grass or leaf shelter accommodating the whole of his family, and more often than not his pigs and dogs. But with the gradual advance of civilization this system is discarded in favour of the more substantial dwellings above mentioned.

The building of houses, etc., in the town of Vila is governed by the provisions of a Town Conservancy Regulation which requires all plans of projected buildings to be passed by a Sanitary Commission.

Periodical inspections of the town are undertaken by the said Sanitary Commission, and a permanent refuse removal squad is responsible for the removal every day of kitchen refuse, etc., and the cleanliness of the public roads. Under the provisions of the same Regulation, householders are bound to keep their premises in good order, clean, and free of weeds and undergrowth.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The chief products of the Group in their order of importance are copra, cocoa, cotton, and coffee. Copra is the most important item, the value of the crop for 1931 amounting to £69,886. The value of cocoa produced was £31,435, cotton £9,833, and coffee £5,712. Local consumption of these products is negligible owing to the lack of demand, the whole crop being exported.

In addition to the main items of produce mentioned above small quantities of maize and wool are produced and exported; similarly sandalwood, trochas, and snail shell are exported.

A small sheep station running some 2,000 to 2,500 sheep has been in successful operation on the island of Erromanga for some years. Good prices are realized for the wool.

Cattle raising in the Group is not resorted to as an industry. Cattle thrive well and are bred on a small scale generally throughout the Group, principally on account of their food value, and their usefulness in keeping plantations free from grass and undergrowth, thus permitting a considerable economy in plantation hands which would otherwise be required for this purpose.

With the exception of copra, of which about one-sixth is produced by native owners of small plots of coco-nut trees, the products above mentioned are grown entirely on European-owned plantations, some of them the property of individual owners, others owned by important companies such as the Société Française des Nouvelles-Hébrides, Société Cottonnière, and Etablissements Hagen, all of which have large interests in the Group.

Plantations are worked by British settlers with indigenous labourers partly under contract and partly as free or casual labourers. French settlers employ the same class of labour to a large extent, but they are mainly dependent on Tonkinese coolies imported for French settlers by the French authorities.

On British plantations the ratio of non-contract as against contract labourers is roughly 2 to 1, and on French plantations 7 to 1. At the end of 1931 there were 3,200 Tonkinese coolies in the Group under contract to French settlers.

The maximum period of contract for indigenous labourers is three years, but with the growing popularity of the casual labour system, these lengthy terms are becoming more and more rare; the native prefers short contracts, or if possible, no contract at all. The usual term of contract for imported Tonkinese coolies is five years.

All native labour is subject to the control of the Administration. Conditions of employment are governed by the labour provisions of the Protocol of 1914, in addition, British settlers are subject to the provisions of separate legislation containing additional restrictions to those provided in the Protocol.

No mining, fishing, or manufacturing industries exist in the Group.

Other than about a dozen Tonkinese and Chinese market gardeners in the neighbourhood of the town of Vila whose produce is all consumed locally, there are no cultivations, plantations, or industries worked or owned by persons of non-European descent.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

General.

The New Hebrides soil and climate are excellent for the propagation and growth of all tropical products. So far planters have specialized in copra, coffee, cocoa, and cotton. The climate is such that all these could be of first-class quality, as, indeed, some are. The lack, however, of up-to-date and scientific methods of preparation together with the absence of an agricultural department have resulted in some of the New Hebrides products acquiring but a fair reputation in the South Seas.

The general downward trend of prices has caused planters to search for other and more remunerative products, and attention is now being given to the possibilities of castor oil, tung oil, and tobacco, the latter being under the auspices of the French. The first tentative exports of castor oil seed were made during the year.

Other products exported are trochas and burghaus shell, sandalwood, maize, hides, bêche-de-mer, and wool.

There are considerable quantities of cattle in the islands, raised with a view to keeping down vegetation on plantations and to feed labour. Hides are a by-product and not an industry. The export of bêche-de-mer depends entirely on the demand from China. The quality is said to be good. There is no pearl shell in the islands. Wool is grown successfully on one of the southern islands, but sheep do not flourish in the northern part of the Group.

There are many good trees such as kauri, island teak, sandalwood, and many useful hardwoods of different varieties, but, as yet, these have been little exploited owing to lack of markets and financial difficulties.

An attempt is now being made to organize the export of bananas and oranges to New Zealand. Both fruits grow profusely and are of good quality.

It is said that the New Hebrides are rich in mineral wealth, as yet unexploited. Deposits of coal and sulphur are known to exist and traces of other minerals have been reported.

Large tracts of fertile agricultural land are still untouched, awaiting more favourable times and security of tenure.

Exports.

COMPARATIVE TABLE IN TONS AND STERLING.

Produce.	1927.			1928.			1929.			1930.			1931.		
	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £	Tons.
Copra ...	10,204	204,090	12,682	208,954	10,787	147,460	11,883	130,573	10,005	69,886	10,005	130,573	10,005	69,886	10,005
Cocoa ...	2,344	140,697	1,422	77,685	2,047	89,088	2,265	73,414	1,505	31,435	1,505	73,414	1,505	31,435	1,505
Cotton ...	*501	40,170	551	43,468	329	31,700	480	26,880	387	9,833	387	26,880	387	9,833	387
Coffee ...	123	4,842	96	5,534	100	6,530	125	7,892	131	5,712	131	7,892	131	5,712	131
Trochus and Burghaus shell.	86	4,299	61	2,627	57	2,980	55	2,721	102	2,053	102	2,721	102	2,053	102
Maize ...	118	949	303	2,277	482	4,355	455	3,670	52	298	52	3,670	52	298	52
Sandalwood ...	23	384	54	898	49	957	98	1,978	24	492	24	1,978	24	492	24
Wool ...	5	601	22	2,453	8	963	16	1,257	9	412	9	1,257	9	412	9
Cotton seed ...	880	880	1,198	1,210	657	1,060	476	591	1,063	1,286	1,063	591	1,063	1,286	1,063
Hides ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	349	22	—	22	349	22
Castor Oil seed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	121	21	—	21	121	21
Coco-nuts ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	61	182	61	—	61	182	61
Bêche-de-mer ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	104	9	—	9	104	9
Miscellaneous ...	63	1,116	336	975	†643	1,139	†607	1,514	276	30	276	1,514	276	30	276
Totals	14,347	£398,028	16,725	£346,081	15,159	£286,232	16,460	£250,520	13,667	£122,193	13,667	£250,520	13,667	£122,193	13,667

† Includes by-products of raw cotton and uncleaned coffee.

* Ginned.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF PRICES OF RAW PRODUCE.

			1930.	1931.
			£	£
Copra	...	...	11 per metric ton.	7 per metric ton.
Coffee	...	...	45 " "	35 " "
Cocoa	...	...	32 " "	21 " "
Cotton	...	...	56 " "	25 " "
Maize	...	...	8 " "	5·7 " "
Trochas	...	...	52 " "	24 " "
Burghaus	...	...	12 " "	10 " "
Wool	...	...	79 " "	47 " "

The statistics for the year 1931 show the inevitable repercussions of the continuation of the depression in prices of raw products. Whereas, normally, an increased production could have been expected in these islands owing to the opening up of new plantations, yet, in spite of an otherwise favourable agricultural year free from serious cyclonic disturbance or pests, 1931 showed a decrease of nearly 3,000 tons (19 per cent.) in production.

Natives to a great extent have abandoned copra making, and planters have had to limit their labour to the minimum necessary to garner and prepare the products of their old trees in full bearing. Cleaning of plantations has had to be considerably curtailed, the crops being smaller in consequence. Cocoa growers have been unable to afford the usual protective measures against rats and vermin. Considerable areas of cotton were abandoned and one company specializing in this article had virtually to close down, keeping only 50 out of its erstwhile 500 labourers. Maize was not in demand and was only grown for local use. Coffee kept up its production chiefly owing to the bounty given by the French Government.

The share of produce exported by British firms and planters was 29 per cent. and 24 per cent. for tonnage and value respectively.

Imports.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF IMPORT VALUES.

Year.	British currency.		French currency.	Remarks.
	£		Francs.	Converted at
1924	...	92,201	7,929,327	francs 86=£
1925	...	217,863	22,004,232	francs 101=£
1926	...	197,840	30,457,405	francs 154=£
1927	...	307,939	38,184,562	francs 124=£
1928	...	374,797	46,474,828	francs 124=£
1929	...	300,035	37,204,343	francs 124=£
1930	...	157,541	19,535,138	francs 124=£
1931	...	79,997	9,919,635	francs 124=£

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF CHIEF IMPORTS.

						<i>Value.</i>	
						1930.	1931.
						£	£
Beer	...	...	...	...	...	968	1,150
Benzine (petrol)	...	...	...	...	...	7,761	3,238
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	...	1,234	780
Tinned goods and groceries	...	...	...	...	...	8,362	2,720
Cartridges	...	...	...	...	...	1,170	280
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	...	5,363	5,545
Cement	...	...	...	...	...	1,685	780
Lubricating oils	...	...	...	...	...	1,952	1,285
Spirits	...	...	...	...	...	1,706	1,635
Tinned milk	...	...	...	...	...	1,476	1,050
Kerosene	...	...	...	...	...	3,600	2,520
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	22,661	11,254
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	6,137	2,815
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	2,420	1,610
Soap	...	...	...	...	...	1,141	843
Tinned fish	...	...	...	...	...	1,883	1,180
Wines (fine)	...	...	...	...	...	1,980	1,010
Wines (ordinaire)	...	...	...	...	...	4,346	4,096
Gunny bags	...	...	...	...	...	2,830	4,857
Building materials	...	...	...	...	...	6,612	3,561
Agricultural machinery,	...	...	...	...	...
motor cars...	...	...	...	...	...	2,210	674
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	456
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	—	1,240

Imports for 1931 were valued at £79,997 as against £157,541 for 1930, and £300,035 for 1929. The effect of the depression of produce prices and the consequent inability to pay for imports has been accentuated by the insolvency of some French planters and companies following on prolific borrowing for purposes of expansion during the days of prosperity which preceded the slump. The result is that practically the whole of the French earnings are absorbed to pay interest and consequently imports have had to be cut down to the barest necessities of life. Accessory causes have been the repatriation of large numbers of Tonkinese, all potential consumers of imported articles, and the financial position of the natives, formerly one of the chief markets for "trade."

It must be admitted, however, that one cause of the drop in import values has been the reduction in the price of many imported articles, due to exchange rates and other economic causes. These causes have assisted importations from Australia, and to some extent from the United Kingdom, at the expense of the trade with France and America. Most of the importations of both French and British firms are, indeed, now from Australia, the chief articles being flour, spirits, beer, fine cigarettes, tinned meats and fish, potatoes, wines, butter, tinned milk, ship's biscuit, sugar, rice, groceries of all kinds, piece-goods, soap, onions, haberdashery, clothing, etc. Many of these articles formerly came almost exclusively from France. Australian light table wines have been becoming increasingly popular, owing to both quality and price as compared with the French wines habitually imported.

The principal importing firms are (British) Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, (French) Les Comptoirs Françaises des Nouvelles-Hébrides, la Compagnie Franco-Hébridaise, Les Etablissements Hagen, and Messrs Gubbay Frères. Importations by other companies have been substantially decreased for financial reasons and most firms have been compelled to reduce their staffs.

There is now only one trading steamer in the Group, belonging to Messrs. Burns Philp. The French inter-island vessel no longer carries a trade-room, but acts as a cargo and mail steamer on a fixed itinerary. Besides the above there are a large (French) auxiliary schooner and a number of launches and cutters which engage in trade.

There are three large stores in Vila, one of which is British; in addition there are numerous small shops in the hands of Japanese and Chinese traders. There are two large stores at Second Channel, Santo, both French.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour and Wages.

NATIVE LABOUR.

Native labour may be divided into three main classes.

(a) Plantation labour, boats' crews of local small vessels, employees of traders, Government messengers, Constabulary, etc., on contract and otherwise.

(b) Domestic labour.

(c) Casual labour, working on steamers, wharves, Government works, etc.

During the year labour has been plentiful, though the native attitude generally against contract service for lengthy periods has been as pronounced as ever. Employers of all classes, however, have been able to obtain their requirements without difficulty, owing entirely to the depressed prices of island produce.

By nature the native of the New Hebrides is lazy and of mercurial temperament. He will not work unless circumstances compel him. His wants are less simple than formerly as he has become accustomed to European food and clothing. When times are good labour is exceedingly scarce and dear, as the majority of natives can obtain all they want by the sale of the produce of their lands and with a minimum of exertion. When times are bad, like the present, the point arrives when the native, having exhausted his hoarded savings, cannot, without a very great deal of exertion himself, obtain the luxuries he desires. He is then faced with the choice of work on his own account, which is unpalatable, or, on the other hand, with either reverting to his natural state in the matter of food (of which there is plenty) and clothing or working for wages. This stage was reached during the course of 1931. The result was that while employers found no difficulty in obtaining labour, the production of native-made copra has fallen off to a very considerable extent. As native savings also began to be exhausted, traders have found it difficult to obtain a living, there being no money to buy their wares.

Domestic labour remains by comparison difficult to secure, as the native, neither male nor female, takes kindly to this form of service and can rarely be prevailed upon to stay with an employer for an extended period. For this reason the New Hebridean servant is not efficient, and can rarely be trained to the finer domestic arts.

Wages of most classes of native labour have undergone some reduction, but not in ratio to the depression of prices. During the year the current rates of wages were :—

Class (a)—

Plantation labourers	...	{	£1 to £2 per month with food and clothing, whether under engagement or not.
Boats' crews	...		
Traders' employees	...		
Government messengers	...		£3 per month without food.
Constabulary	...	{	From £2 per month with food and clothing.
	...		

Note.—Casual labour is frequently employed on plantations for picking cotton and seasonal crops on a daily wage from 1s. 6d. to 3s. with or without food, according to arrangement.

Class (b)—

Domestic labour	...	{	£1 to £2 10s. 0d. per month with food and clothing, whether engaged or not.
	...		

Class (c)—

Casual labour	...	{	4s. to 6s. 6d. per day with or without food and according to skill.
	...		

The employment of natives under engagement of any kind is governed by the provisions of the Protocol of 1914, and in the case of British dependents also by national legislation.

ASIATIC LABOUR.

Asiatic labour consists of—

(a) Indo-Chinese coolies imported under contract for the use of French settlers by the French Government. These Tonkinese are, generally speaking, satisfactory, being of a superior intelligence to the native, if not so physically strong, and are naturally hard workers. They receive approximately 120 francs per month per head, plus food, clothing, lodging, etc. The cost to the settler is now considerably higher than that of native labour as, in addition to wages, he is charged for the cost of transportation to and from Indo-China, Government inspection, and medical surveillance, etc. Owing to the depression a large number have been repatriated, there remaining at the end of the year some 3,000 against 5,500 at the end of 1930. There are also a very few Javanese and Chinese under contract.

(b) Free Chinese and Japanese labour of the artisan class. These are only a handful and work on daily wages which are unfixed and depend partly on skill and partly on demand. Such wages vary from 10s. to 18s. *per diem*. There are also a few Chinese employed as stewards and cooks on inter-island steamers at rates varying from £3 to £6 per month with rations.

Cost of Living.

There is no standard by which the cost of living of native or Asiatic labour can be usefully compared. The vast majority of labourers are, however, provided with the necessities of life by their employers, who thus stand the variations of the market.

As regards the official class, the standard of living, which it is necessary to maintain in the interests of health in the New Hebrides, must be as high as circumstances permit. At Vila, the seat of Government, living is considerably more expensive than in other parts of the Group as there are few facilities for the individual to maintain gardens or keep live stock. Lately the dearth of fresh vegetables has been somewhat alleviated by the starting of market gardening by a few Asiatics and planters. Such are obtainable in fair quantity and of fair quality for about two-thirds of the year at prices which vary from moderate to expensive according to season. Fresh meat is obtainable, but is not always of good quality. Fresh milk can now be obtained from planters with regularity. Fish is very rarely obtainable and is of poor quality. A certain amount of ready-made clothing, hosiery, boots, etc., can be purchased locally, but most wearing apparel must be obtained from Australia or Europe. Australian prices have decreased appreciably for such articles. Practically all perishable commodities are imported from Australia.

Retail prices in general have shown some decline, but towards the close of the year the cost of a number of local commodities rose, owing to their being purchaseable in francs or on a franc basis.

The following table gives the average retail prices of staple articles during the year :—

Fresh milk	...	...	8d. to 10d. per quart.
Flour	...	...	2½d. to 3d. per lb.
Rice	...	...	1½d. to 2d. per lb.
Sugar	...	...	2½d. per lb.
Potatoes	...	...	2½d. to 3d. per lb.
Fresh meat	...	...	8d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.
Onions	...	...	3d. per lb.
Butter	...	...	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Tea ...	...	...	2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee	...	...	3s. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	2s. 6d. to 6s. per dozen.
Poultry	...	...	4s. to 8s. each.
Tinned meat	...	...	1s. to 2s. per lb.
Wood fuel	...	...	5s. to 6s. 6d. per cubic metre.
Kerosene	...	...	7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per tin (4 gallons).
Petrol	...	...	9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per tin (4 gallons).

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no schools controlled or supported by the Condominium Government, nor are there any facilities for European children to receive anything but a primary education, which is not of a very high standard.

The town of Vila has three schools: (1) a school for girls, supported and controlled by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart Mission; (2) a boys' school, supported and controlled by the Marist Mission; and (3) an infants' school, run by the French Government. Admission to these schools is not restricted to the children of Europeans and the entrance fees are purely nominal.

The British and French Missions in the Group have various good schools and training institutions for the benefit of the natives. The Presbyterian Mission maintains an excellent school at Tangoa, South Santo, and can accommodate up to sixty pupils. They also maintain other schools throughout the Group. The Melanesian Mission have a good school at Lolowai, Aoba, and schools in the Banks Group. The Seventh Day Adventist Mission have a utilitarian school at Aore Island, Santo, which is equipped with modern machinery for teaching all kinds of woodcraft. The Marist Mission also maintain schools in various islands of the Group.

All these institutions carry out excellent work among the natives and deserve commendation.

The task of educating the New Hebridean has been left in the hands of the various mission bodies operating in the Group; but in order to appreciate the inestimable services rendered by these missions

n educating and civilizing the wild inhabitants of these islands a short sketch of missionary endeavour will be of assistance.

The island of Erromanga was the scene of the first essay to wean the native from heathenism, when in the year 1839 John Williams and Harris, under the auspices of the London Missionary Society landed at Dillons Bay, and in the same year were killed by the natives in whose welfare they strove.

It was not until 1857 that any further attempt was made to bring civilization to the Erromangans. In that year the Reverend G. N. and Mrs. Gordon took up the work, but were subsequently murdered by the natives, to be followed by Gordon's brother, who perished in the same manner. The Gordons were followed by Mr. and Mrs. McNair. Mr. McNair died on the island and was followed by the Reverend Doctor Robertson, who, after many years of danger and hardship had the satisfaction of seeing the whole island under the civilizing influence of Christianity when he left the Group in 1920.

Erromanga is well named "The Martyrs' Isle."

In 1842 an endeavour was made by Messrs. Turner and Nisbet to convert the Tannese, but their efforts were not attended with success, and after a few months they were forced to flee, barely escaping with their lives. Sixteen years later the Reverend Doctor J. G. Paton took up the work on Tanna, but owing to the hostility of the natives was compelled to abandon the island after four years. He settled on the adjacent island of Aniwa, where his efforts were attended with every success. Tanna was afterwards occupied by the Reverends Watt and Neilson, whose work materially contributed to the subjugation of the warlike Tannese.

About the year 1850 the control of the missions passed into the charge of the various Presbyterian Church Bodies in the Colonies, and in later years the more northern islands of the Group were endowed with missionaries. The following names figure prominently in the list of those devoted men and women who in the early days braved the hardships and dangers of this Group in the task of claiming its inhabitants for civilization; The Reverend Milne of Nguna; Doctors Mackenzie and Macdonald of Efate; Michelsen of Tongoa; Smail and Fraser of Epi; Morton and Watt-Leggatt of Malekula; Annand and Mackenzie of Santo.

Other workers in the New Hebrides mission field include the Catholic, Melanesian, Church of Christ, and Seventh Day Adventist denominations.

The Catholic Mission was first established on the island of Aneityum in the year 1848, but their stay was not of long duration and the attempt was soon abandoned. They returned to the Group however in 1887, and since that date their influence has gradually extended to the whole Group with the exception of the southern islands, and the Banks and Torres.

The Melanesian Mission was in the field about the year 1850, and by agreement with the Presbyterian Missions the northern part of the Group comprising Aoba, Pentecost, Maeovo, and the Banks and Torres, as yet untouched by the Presbyterians, was abandoned as a Melanesian Mission sphere of influence.

It was on Aoba Island in the year 1905 that the Reverend Godden of this Mission, the latest of mission martyrs at native hands, was brutally murdered by a native of that island.

In 1912 the Seventh Day Adventists started operations on Efate, but later transferred their activities to Ambrym, Malekula, and Santo.

In the task of civilizing the native the importance of education was never lost sight of. Each mission village had its school, where the rudiments of reading and writing were imparted to young and old. To-day there are four good central schools, in addition to the mission station schools, where facilities are provided for primary education of the native. Of these the Training Institution established many years ago by the Presbyterian Mission at Tangoa renders excellent services in fashioning from the raw material teachers in whose care is confided the task of education. Another invaluable institution of this nature is the Melanesian Mission school on Aoba. The Catholic Mission school at Vila also renders good services in this direction. The year 1925 saw the Seventh Day Adventists installed on the island of Aoré, where natives from all parts of the Group, in addition to their scholastic studies, receive practical instruction in various arts and crafts.

Apart from the good educational work achieved by the missions, there is the equally important and beneficial medical work undertaken by the Presbyterian Mission, about which much could be written. A few years ago this denomination maintained no less than four well-equipped hospitals in the Group. To-day there are two, one at Tanna and the other at Vila. These hospitals are primarily intended for native patients, but their services are no less appreciated by white sufferers. The hospital established at Dip Point, Ambrym, under the superintendence of Doctor Bowie, to whose skill and kindness, not only hundreds of natives but many Europeans alive to-day owe their lives, will always be remembered in connexion with missionary endeavour in this Group. This hospital, in the year 1913, was engulfed, together with the adjoining mission station and native villages, in the tremendous volcanic outburst on that island, and to-day, where the hospital stood, is nothing but a shallow lake.

The Mission hospital at Vila was opened in 1912—a commodious well appointed building standing on the small island of Iririki in Vila Harbour—and is indeed a boon to native, Asiatic, and European alike.

Tanna hospital has been in existence over 25 years and its beneficial services are well known and appreciated by all.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

Europe.—A two-monthly service of the Messageries Maritimes line is maintained between the terminal points of Dunkirk and Noumea (New Caledonia), via Vila, on both inward and outward voyages. The route is via Tahiti, Panama, Martinique, and Marseilles, and the period of the voyage approximately 65 days between Vila and Marseilles. The following vessels are engaged in this service :—*Ville de Verdun*, *Boussole*, *Astrolabe*, *Ville de Strasbourg*, *Recherche*, and *Esperence*.

Australia.—The S.S. *Morinda* (Burns Philp line) and the S.S. *Laperouse* (Messageries Maritimes) maintain five-weekly communications with Sydney, New South Wales—the former via Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands on the outward voyage from Sydney, and via Norfolk Island, Auckland (New Zealand), and Lord Howe Island on the homeward voyage, and the latter via Lifou, Loyalty Islands, and Noumea, New Caledonia.

Dutch Line.—A regular service is also maintained by the Royal Packet Navigation Company's steamer *Le Maire* between Saigon and Noumea, touching at Vila about every two and a-half months, via New Guinea, Papua, and Batavia.

New Caledonia.—Communication is maintained with Noumea by the S.S. *Laperouse* every four to five weeks, and by the Messageries line of steamers previously mentioned, approximately every two months. The French inter-island steamer also pays fairly frequent visits to Noumea.

Inter-Island.—The following steamers make monthly or five-weekly voyages round the Group. They have no fixed itinerary, but usually connect at Vila with the British or French mail vessels:—

S.S. *Malinoa* (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company), S.S. *Saint Andre* (Messageries Maritimes).

The port of Vila is the port of entry in the Group. The tonnage entered and cleared during 1931 was as follows :—

ENTERED.

					<i>Tons.</i>	
British	...	...	...	...	22,080	(18 vessels).
French	...	...	...	...	88,973	(35 vessels).
Other	...	...	...	...	14,444	(9 vessels).
					<hr/> 125,497 <hr/>	

CLEARED.

					<i>Tons.</i>	
British	...	...	...	...	22,080	(18 vessels).
French	...	...	...	...	89,921	(35 vessels).
Other	...	...	...	...	14,444	(9 vessels).
					<hr/> 126,445 <hr/>	

Railways.

There are no railways proper in the Group. A two-foot rail track runs from the outskirts of Mélé to Vila—a distance of about four miles—and is used for various commercial purposes. The small wharves, privately-owned by the commercial houses in Vila, are also provided with rails for the transport of merchandise from the bulk store sheds.

Posts.

Mail communication from and to Europe and Australia is maintained by the mail steamers S.S. *Morinda* and S.S. *Laperouse*, which call at Vila and various island ports every five weeks. These lines are subsidized by His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia and the French Government, respectively. The mails both inward and outward are sorted at Vila and rebagged for distribution round the Group by the inter-island steamers, which receive subventions from the Condominium Government for the services performed. The average time for European postal matter to reach Vila by the regular mail routes is 42 to 49 days. The Condominium Government has a postage stamp issue designed to represent the dual control. There are two sets of stamps—one British and one French. Both are inscribed in English and French currency.

The postal matter handled by the Vila Post Office for 1931 was as follows :—

			<i>From or to British territory.</i>		<i>From or to French territory.</i>		<i>From or to other places.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
			<i>Des- Received.</i>	<i>patched.</i>	<i>Des- Received.</i>	<i>patched.</i>	<i>Des- Received.</i>	<i>patched.</i>	
Letters	...	...	24,000	20,000	60,000	40,000	3,000	2,000	149,000
Other articles	...	...	44,000	2,000	34,000	5,000	500	500	86,000
Registered articles	...	...	500	900	4,000	4,410	120	200	10,130
Totals	...	...	68,500	22,900	98,000	49,410	3,620	2,700	245,130

Radio-Telegraph.

There is no cable communication with the New Hebrides, but the Condominium Government maintains a radio-telegraph station at Vila, which is worked by British and French operators. The

call-sign is F J X and messages can be received and transmitted on the following wave-lengths :—

Receipts : 17 to 40 metres, 600 and 800 metres.

Transmissions : 26 to 37 metres, 600 and 800 metres.

The greater part of the traffic is with Noumea, New Caledonia. There is a daily service with Suva, Fiji. The terminal charge of the Vila Station is 3d. or 1 franc 50 centimes, per word.

A table is given below showing statistics for the year under report :—

<i>Messages.</i>		<i>Received.</i>	<i>Relayed.</i>	<i>Despatched.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Government messages	...	743	60	808	1,611
Private messages	...	1,420	692	1,290	3,402
Totals	...	2,163	752	2,098	5,013

The Vila Station is now equipped with short-wave transmission and great improvement has resulted in communicating with the station at Suva.

Roads.

With the exception of the islands of Efate, Tanna, and Tongoa, there are very few public highways in the Group suitable for wheeled transport. Tanna has several good roads, one of which traverses the island. There is also a fair road on the island of Tongoa. Vila, the capital and seat of Government, has several good roads and these link up the outlying districts.

Telephones.

Telephone communication is established in the town of Vila and the outlying districts. The system is operated by a central exchange and the service is continuous. There are 60 telephones and 86 miles of wire. During the hurricane season the service is liable to interruption. There are no telephone systems in the other islands of the Group.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no banks in the New Hebrides. The Condominium Government carries out its banking operations through Noumea (New Caledonia) and Sydney (Australia). It has been the practice in the past for the larger British and French commercial houses to act as bankers for their clients, but the economic crisis coupled with shortage of cash and credit, has severely restricted local banking operations. The Banque de l'Indochine, at Noumea, issues a local note which circulates in the New Hebrides and is guaranteed by the Bank of France.

The currencies circulating in the New Hebrides Group are sterling, Australian and French currency. Owing to the departure of Australia and the United Kingdom from the gold standard, and the

variation in the rates of exchange of sterling and Australian currency, the position of the three currencies has become one of great complexity. The situation is aggravated by the lack of local banking facilities.

The Condominium Government adopts the rate of 124 francs to the pound sterling. Sterling therefore remains at gold parity with the franc for Government purposes, while Australian currency remains at the prevailing discount rate against sterling.

A factor which caused the Condominium Administration much concern throughout the year was the remarkable flow of United Kingdom silver coin into the Condominium Treasury, and the difficulty of its disposal without financial loss. The cause was mainly due to the domination of Australian silver throughout the Pacific, in consequence of which local commerce refused to recognize the premium on sterling silver as against Australian silver. As the Condominium Government recognizes the premium, most of the United Kingdom silver flowed into the Condominium chest. Quantities were also exported by commercial houses with a view to obtaining such premium as offered for United Kingdom silver outside the Group. This complication has not yet been overcome and although the situation has improved the Condominium Government still holds supplies of United Kingdom silver of which it finds difficulty in disposing.

The British and French systems of weights and measures are both employed throughout the Group.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Condominium maintains a Public Works Department normally controlled by a Superintendent and an Assistant. Owing to depressed conditions of finance and the consequent unavoidable restriction of public expenditure one of these posts was not filled during the year. Public works were, therefore, restricted to the barest necessary repairs of roads and buildings.

In normal times building material is mostly imported from Australia. Dwelling houses and other buildings are all made of wood or galvanized iron owing to the prevalence of earth tremors. Building material is imported ready cut from Australia, as the supply of skilled artisans is limited.

The construction and maintenance of roads and bridges is carried out partly by the Public Works Department and partly by local contract under Public Works Department supervision. Metalled roads exist in Efate for a few miles round Vila. Labour in Efate is dear and difficult to obtain. There are unmetalled or semi-metalled roads in various parts of the Group, the best being those in the islands of Tanna and Tongoa, which have been made by the natives themselves to facilitate the cartage of produce to the

beaches. Such roads are comparatively easy of construction as the underlying hard coral is generally close to the surface and thus cartage of material is minimized. The chief difficulty in maintaining roads is the keeping down of bush.

The use of motor vehicles, and in some islands ox-wagons, has increased the importance of road construction. Most plantations now keep motor transport for their own use and maintain very fair motor ways within their own boundaries. These frequently link up with similar roads on adjoining properties. In this manner most of the existing public roads (now maintained by the Condominium) have come into being and it is probable that public roads and island arteries of the future will be similarly evolved.

The Public Works Department also maintains the harbour light system of Vila Harbour. This consists of an automatic lighthouse on Pango Point, which guides vessels to the mouth of Vila Harbour, and a pair of leading lights on the hills above the harbour which give a line to the deep water entrance. A green light shows the lateral margin of safety for large ships.

The expenditure on Condominium Public Works for the year 1931 was approximately £1,400 (as against £3,000 in 1930) and that on Harbour Lights about £120.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Convention of 1914 provided for the immediate introduction of three Courts, namely the Joint Court, and the French and British National Courts, and the subsequent formation of two others—Courts of First Instance and Native Courts.

The scope and functions of these Courts is briefly as follows :—

(1) *Joint Court*.—The Court is composed of a British and a French Judge, with a President of neutral nationality. There is also a Public Prosecutor and a Native Advocate. The Joint Court is a Court of final adjudication in matters of purely Condominium nature. Broadly speaking, and subject to certain exceptions, its civil jurisdiction is confined to certain proceedings in respect to rights over immovable property—its chief function being that of a land Court governing the registration of indefeasible titles to land. It may also settle cases between any parties, native or non-native, brought before it by consent of both. Its criminal jurisdiction, broadly speaking, is confined to offences—(a) connected with the recruitment of native labourers, or (b) committed by natives against non-natives, or (c) committed by natives against natives in areas where the Native Code is in force and involving a penalty of over one year's confinement, or (d) against the Convention or Joint

Regulations passed in pursuance thereof in areas where no Court of First Instance exists.

There is an appeal to the Joint Court from all judgments of Courts of First Instance and from important civil judgments of Native Courts. The Joint Court also has certain revisionary powers in criminal cases of Native Courts, and judgments of Courts of First Instance involving sentence of imprisonment.

(2) *Courts of First Instance*.—The composition of these Courts consists of a British and a French District Agent with a British or French Assessor chosen by lot. Their jurisdiction is over breaches of the 1914 Convention, or of Joint Regulations made thereunder, except those connected with the recruitment of native labour.

(3) *Native Courts*.—These are composed of either a British or French District Agent, assisted by two native Assessors. The British and French Agents preside over the Court in turns, month and month about. A necessary corollary to the full and complete functioning of these Courts is the promulgation in the area of the Native Code.

(4) and (5) *National Courts*.—The British and French Governments have established in the Group, in conformity with their existing legal systems, Courts with jurisdiction over all civil cases, other than those reserved to the Joint Court, and over all criminal cases in which a non-native is the defendant. In civil cases the jurisdiction over actions between non-natives belongs in some cases to the Court of the Power under whose law the contract was concluded, or the act or thing in question originated, and in other cases to the Court of the Power to which the defendant belongs. In criminal cases, non-natives are justiciable by the Court of their own nationality or the nationality applied to them.

Courts of First Instance have so far been set up in Central Districts Nos. 1 and 2.

A Code of Native Criminal Law has been instituted, and two Native Courts—one in the Central District No. 1 and one in the Southern District—have been formed to administer Penal Law only within their competence and jurisdiction.

There were no serious cases of crime during the year.

Police.

The policing of the Group is carried out by two separate forces of armed native constabulary, British and French, each in the charge of a National Commandant under the orders of the respective Resident Commissioners. The headquarters are at Vila, small detachments are located at the District Agencies on the islands of Tanna, Malekula, and Santo, respectively, in order to assist the District Agents in the carrying out of their duties.

The British force is composed of natives recruited from the islands of the New Hebrides, and the French force partly of New Hebrideans

and Loyalty Islanders. In addition, the French have enrolled a number of Tonkinese police, for the purpose of facilitating police operations among the Tonkinese coolies in the Group.

The duties of the native constabulary consist in the maintenance of law and order among the native population of the more civilized areas, general police and patrol work, the guarding of native prisoners, and the repression of native disorders.

Both the British and French Commandants, in addition to their duties as police officers of the Condominium, also act as police officers in so far as their own nationals are concerned, and are charged with the conduct of police cases before their respective national Courts.

The cost of the maintenance of the two forces is defrayed by the respective national Governments, except when the two corps are acting jointly, when the expenses are met from Condominium funds.

Natives of the islands are enlisted in the police generally for periods of two years. Some re-engage; some do not; but it is safe to say that the two years spent under discipline is one of the most civilizing influences in the New Hebrides.

Prisons.

Each Government maintains its own national prison, which is situated in the town of Vila, and accommodation is provided for both natives and whites. The cost of maintenance of prisoners sentenced by the national tribunals is met from national funds, and that of natives sentenced by the Resident Commissioners and the Native and Mixed Courts, from Condominium funds.

There is no Condominium prison staff. Each Commandant acts as prison keeper and is responsible for the supervision of prisoners placed in his charge. He is assisted by police constables who act as warders.

In addition to the national prisons at headquarters, each District Agency is provided with a temporary lock-up in which natives under short sentences are confined.

The class of native prisoner with which the Administration is called upon to deal is almost exclusively confined to those sentenced for breaches of local liquor laws and offenders against the provisions of the Native Penal Code. Crime of a serious nature is rare, and criminality, as such, unknown.

Native prisoners are employed in works of general utility, such as the making and cleaning of roads, weeding Government paddocks, transport of material to various Government buildings, etc.

The daily average of native prisoners confined in the British prison was 3·2 and in the French prison 3·5. No deaths occurred in the British prison. Generally speaking, the health of prisoners was good.

The following judgments, other than civil, were recorded by the various Courts :—

Nature of Judgment.

	<i>Fine.</i>	<i>Imprisonment.</i>
Joint Court	*2	4
Courts of First Instance	24	3
Native Courts	38	14
Resident Commissioners' Courts	19	63
British National Court	2	5
	—	—
Totals	85	89
	—	—

* Appeals from Court of First Instance, Central District No. 1.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following Joint Regulations were brought into force during the year :—

- No. 1 ... *The New Hebrides Fines Amendment Regulation No. 1 of 1931.*—This had the effect of bringing fines in previous legislation into conformity with the new parity rate of 124 francs to the pound sterling, as against the earlier rate of 25 francs.
- No. 2 ... *The New Hebrides Increase of Fines Regulation No. 2 of 1931.*—This increased to the maximum fines provided under various Regulations, and is a corollary to Joint Regulation No. 1 of 1931.
- No. 3 ... *The New Hebrides Export of Silver Amendment Regulation No. 3 of 1931* annulled all restrictions on the export of silver currency. In view of the adverse balance of trade and the absence of banking and transfer facilities, the former restrictions were found to be a handicap to traders.
- No. 4 ... *The New Hebrides Postal Services Prevention of Fraudulent Practices Regulation No. 4 of 1931* punishes certain fraudulent practices as laid down in the Universal Postal Convention, Article 80.
- No. 5 ... *The Licences Amendment Regulation No. 5 of 1931* provides for a minor amendment of the Trading Licences Regulation No. 4 of 1930.
- No. 6 ... *The New Hebrides Dwelling House Construction and Town Conservancy Regulation No. 6 of 1931* revises and recasts former sanitary legislation and provides rules for the construction of new houses and out-buildings.

- No. 7 ... *The New Hebrides Payment of Court Fees Amendment Regulation No. 7 of 1931 contains a minor amendment to the English text of the original Regulation.*
- No. 8 ... *The New Hebrides Traffic Regulation No. 8 of 1931 provides for the control of traffic, the issue of licences, the registration and control of vehicles of all kinds, and the control of animals on the public roads. It also provides for increased Pound fees.*
- No. 9 ... *The New Hebrides Motor Vehicles and Cycles Fees Regulation No. 9 of 1931 makes provision for fees for licences and registration, and also annual taxation of vehicles.*
- No. 10 ... *The New Hebrides Motor Vehicles and Cycles Fees Amendment Regulation No. 10 of 1931 makes a minor alteration in Joint Regulation No. 9 of 1931.*
- No. 11 ... *The New Hebrides Motor Vehicles and Cycles Fees Amendment Regulation No. 11 of 1931 provides for special reduced taxation of commercial vehicles.*
- No. 12 ... *The New Hebrides Traffic Amendment Regulation No. 12 of 1931 provides a special regime for demonstration of cars by bona fide agents.*
- No. 13 ... *The Pound Fees 24 Hours Moratorium Regulation No. 13 of 1931 provides that Pound fees shall not be leviable until 24 hours after the admission of animals to the Public Pound.*
- No. 14 ... *The New Hebrides Medical Organization Regulation No. 14 of 1931 provides for the organization and control of the Condominium Medical Service and the welfare of natives.*

There exist no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., in the New Hebrides, except as far as is provided in the Protocol of 1914 and King's Regulation No. 1 of 1913, which govern the care of native labour. There are no factories or industries except agriculture in the New Hebrides.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

By Article 5 of the Convention of 1914 each of the two Powers is required to defray the expenses of its own Administration in the Group. The cost of the joint services is defrayed out of local taxation. The joint services include finance, posts and telegraphs, customs, public works, ports and harbours, public health, the Joint Court and the Summary Courts, and lands registry. In the event of revenue from local taxation proving insufficient to meet jointly approved expenditure, the two Signatory Powers contribute

the deficit in equal proportions. Such contributions were required, for the first time since 1921, in the year under review, owing to the falling off in revenue due to the general commercial depression.

Revenue and Expenditure.

CONDOMINIUM REVENUE.

Year.			<i>French Currency. Francs.</i>	<i>British Currency. £</i>	<i>Remarks. Converted at</i>
1927	...	...	3,037,711	or 24,497	francs 124 = £
1928	...	...	3,463,551	or 27,932	francs 124 = £
1929	...	...	3,549,562	or 28,624	francs 124 = £
1930	...	...	2,402,829	or 19,378	francs 124 = £
1931*	...	...	1,380,380	or 11,132	francs 124 = £

CONDOMINIUM EXPENDITURE.

Year.			<i>French Currency. Francs.</i>	<i>British Currency. £</i>	<i>Remarks. Converted at</i>
1927	...	...	2,220,479	or 17,907	francs 124 = £
1928	...	...	3,568,404	or 28,777	francs 124 = £
1929	...	...	3,210,639	or 25,892	francs 124 = £
1930	...	...	3,509,011	or 28,298	francs 124 = £
1931*	...	...	3,029,263	or 24,429	francs 124 = £

* Partly estimated.

The chief sources of Condominium revenue are import and export taxes and port dues, which normally account for some four-fifths of the receipts. Other sources of income are postal and telegraphic receipts, Court fees and fines, survey fees, trading licences, taxes on vehicles, lands registry fees, and miscellaneous receipts.

The following is a brief table of the principal import duties :—

General merchandise unspecified	...	6 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Gramophones, records, perfumery, lace, rifles, revolvers, and cart- ridges.	20	„ „
Spirits and tobacco	12	„ „
Wines and petrol, lubricating and combustible oils.	5	„ „
Kerosene	3	„ „
Shotguns and cartridges, detonators	100	„ „
Beer	6d. per gallon.	
Dynamite	9d. per lb.	
Fuse	2d. per 24 feet.	

No duty is levied on the following articles :—live stock, books, cereals and seeds, ship's biscuit, fertilizers, medical appliances and drugs for hospitals, microscopes, plants, vaccines and lymphs, fresh vegetables and fruit.

The main heads of taxation and estimated yields for the year 1931 are tabulated as follows :—

	£
Inland Revenue (trading and other licences) ...	600
Post Office	500
Port dues	800
Court and survey fees	400
Import duties	6,000
Export duties	1,200
Wireless telegraph (gross)	900
Lands registry	100

EXPENDITURE ON SERVICES ENTIRELY BRITISH.

	£
1927-28	16,048
1928-29	11,966
1929-30	9,506
1930-31	10,314

This expenditure is defrayed from funds provided by Parliament on Civil Estimates, Vote for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services, Class II, 9. Certain miscellaneous receipts, such as Court fees and fines, and rent, totalling a few hundred pounds annually, are applied in reduction of the Vote on which expenditure is provided for. The expenditure on British services includes, among other things, the personal emoluments of the British national staff, Police Force, and District Agents, and maintenance of houses of officers and police barracks.

The French Government maintains at national expense services similar to the above.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

Land owned by settlers in the New Hebrides was acquired originally from native owners, either by purchase or barter. Ownership at the present day is based on these native deeds, but such deeds do not constitute a valid title until judgment has been pronounced upon them by the Joint Court. The procedure in regard to obtaining indefeasible titles to land in the New Hebrides is set out in Articles 22 to 27 of the Protocol of 1914. Approximately 1,000 claims have been lodged in the Joint Court representing an area of 2,150,000 acres, more or less.

Up to the close of the year 196 titles had been granted, all upon Efate and adjacent islands. It is expected to complete the registration of Efate early in the year 1932. The speed with which titles are granted is dependent to a large extent on the progress of land surveys of the properties affected and of the claims of opposing applicants for title.

A staff of surveyors is attached to the Court, but owing to the difficult nature of the country to be surveyed and identified, it is necessarily slow. For financial reasons the staff of surveyors has recently been reduced.

In the grant of land titles due consideration is given to the claims of the indigenous population that may be occupying lands not yet up for registration. The Court instructs its surveyors to report on such matters in the course of their work, and is guided by their reports in deciding the desirability or necessity of making land reserves. An official Native Advocate is appointed by the Governments to watch over native interests in land matters and to bring to the notice of the Court instances of usurpation of land by settlers, as well as assist them in opposing claims actually before the Court. The Torrens system of land registration has been adopted in the New Hebrides.

Visits of Warships.

On 22nd June, H.M.S. *Laburnum* of the New Zealand Squadron (Commander C. E. Hotham, D.S.C., R.N.), flying the Flag of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, arrived at Vila and remained in the Group until 1st July. His Excellency Sir Murdoch Fletcher, accompanied by Mr. Vaskess, Secretary to the High Commission, and Lieutenant T. B. Wardle, R.N., A.D.C., spent several days at the capital and then proceeded through the Group to visit the islands of Aore, Malo, Tangoa, and Santo.

On 18th September, H.M.A.S. *Canberra*, flying the Broad Pennant of the Commodore Commanding H.M. Australian Squadron (Commodore L. S. Holbrook, M.V.O., R.N.), arrived at Vila and remained in the Group until 21st September.

The French sloop *Bellatrix* visited the Group for a few days in May.

Atmospheric Disturbances.

A hurricane visited the island of Efate in March. Fortunately its maximum intensity was of short duration and not a great deal of damage was done to buildings and plantations. Otherwise the Group was free from violent atmospheric disturbances.

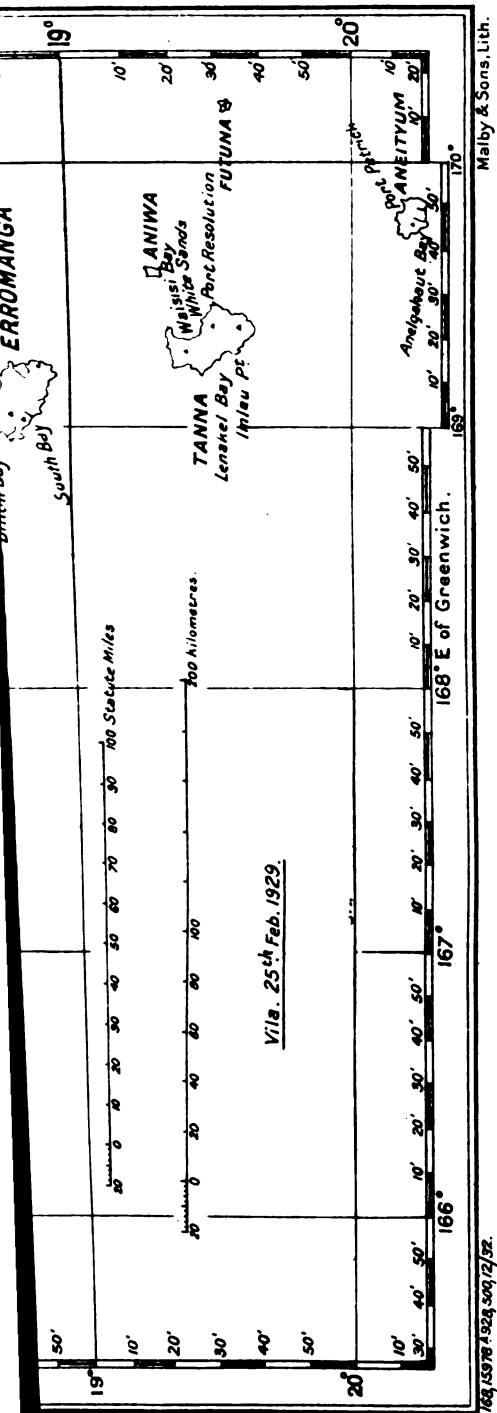
There was a minor eruption of the volcano Ambrym, consisting chiefly of cinders. No permanent damage was done, but many native gardens were burnt up and some relief had to be given to the Joint Administration.

G. A. JOY,

*H.B.M. Resident Commissioner
for the New Hebrides.*

BRITISH RESIDENCY,
NEW HEBRIDES.

17th June, 1932.



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
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THE
UGANDA PROTECTORATE,
1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1486 and 1556
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

1. The territories comprising the Uganda Protectorate lie between the Belgian Congo, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya, and Tanganyika Territory. The Protectorate extends from about parallel 1° south latitude to the northern limits of the navigable waters of the Albert Nile (Bahr el Jebel) at Nimule. On the east its boundary extends from Mount Zulia on the Sudan border along the Turkana Escarpment to the crater of Mount Elgon (14,178 feet) and thence runs along the Malawa and the Sio Rivers into the north-eastern waters of Lake Victoria; whilst the outstanding features on the western side are the Nile-Congo watershed, Lake Albert, the River Semliki, the Ruwenzori Range (16,794 feet), and Lake Edward.

Until a survey of the whole country has been completed, only provisional statistics of area can be furnished, but for all practical purposes the Protectorate may be taken to cover an area of

approximately 94,204 square miles, of which 13,616 square miles are water. The whole of this area is at a considerable height above sea-level, the altitude of the greater part being between 3,500 and 4,000 feet.

Climate.

Climatic conditions are not uniform throughout the Protectorate, but, with the exceptions mentioned below, the temperature is moderate and varies but slightly throughout the year. The mean maximum temperature for most districts averages 80°F., and the mean minimum 60°F. On the Ruwenzori Range there is extreme cold, with perpetual snow, while it is also cold on the higher slopes of Elgon. In the Nile valley near Lake Albert the mean maximum temperature is 90° F. and the mean minimum 74°F.

Two main rainy seasons are anticipated annually. The first, or "long rains," usually begins in March and may continue throughout June; the second, or "short rains," begins in September and extends through October and occasionally November; generally speaking, both seasons are experienced throughout the Protectorate. The rainfall at Entebbe for the year, which was considerably above the average, amounted to 68·19 inches, distributed over 159 days. The highest rainfall was recorded at Moniko (between Kampala and Jinja) where 77·21 inches were registered, and the lowest at Kisubi (near Entebbe) where 28·49 inches were registered.

History.

2. The peoples of Uganda make their earliest appearance in authentic history in the latter part of the nineteenth century when European explorers first arrived in the country. Uganda appears to have been untouched by outside influences prior to the penetration of Arab traders to the southern end of lake Victoria in the early nineteenth century; and even the slave-trade had hardly affected it when the first Europeans, Speke and Grant, reached it in 1862 from the south, in their search for the sources of the Nile. In response to the famous appeal for missionaries launched by H. M. Stanley (who visited Buganda in 1875), English missionaries came to Uganda in 1877 and were soon followed by French Roman Catholics. Both denominations, as well as proselytizing Arab Moslems, had gained many adherents by the time of Mutesa's death and the accession of his son, Mwanga, in 1884. The murder of Bishop Hannington, who in defiance of native superstition attempted to enter the country from the east, by Mwanga's orders precipitated a systematic persecution of all the new religions, and reprisals, which involved the country in "religious" wars for the next seven years.

For a time it was uncertain whether Uganda would come under the British or the German sphere of influence in Africa, but in 1886 Germany renounced her claims, and Captain Lugard (now the Right Honourable Lord Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.), on

behalf of the Imperial British East Africa Company, concluded a treaty in 1890 with Mwanga, giving the British the right to intervention in the internal affairs of Buganda. Captain Lugard succeeded, not without having to overcome the gravest difficulties, in pacifying the country, but in 1892 the Company found itself unable to bear the expense of administering Uganda any longer. Sir Gerald Portal, sent by the British Government to report on the advisability of establishing a Protectorate, hoisted the British flag in Kampala in March, 1893, but had to leave the country shortly afterwards on account of ill-health. A British Protectorate was declared on 27th August, 1894. Three years later Mwanga instigated a rebellion, on the defeat of which he fled the country, and was succeeded by his infant son, Daudi Chwa (the present King, or "Kabaka") under the guidance of three Regents. Soon afterwards a discontented section of the Sudanese troops maintained in Uganda mutinied, and were joined by Mwanga and Kabarega, King of Bunyoro, who had consistently hindered British administration. After a year's campaigning they were defeated, and deported, and since 1899 the country has been peaceful. Its political organization is treated of in the next Chapter.

The year 1901 saw the completion of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa to Lake Victoria, without which the subsequent development of the Protectorate would never have been possible. The growing of cotton, now the staple industry, was started in 1903; and the Busoga and Port Bell Railways and a great part of the country's present fine system of motor roads were constructed to provide cheap transport for this product. Sleeping-sickness (trypanosomiasis) ravaged the islands and shores of Lake Victoria from 1902 onwards, causing hundreds of thousands of deaths and necessitating the removal of the population from the affected areas. The islands have since been re-populated, and, as a result of the precautions taken, the disease has not recurred on the Lake. Some 191,600 of the people of Uganda served in the Great War, five Battalions of the 4th King's African Rifles being raised in the Protectorate while 117,819 men were recruited to maintain the personnel of the Carrier Corps.

Since the Armistice, and the succeeding economic difficulties, the country has continued to make rapid progress, despite the famine, rinderpest, and influenza visitations of 1919, and the dislocation of trade consequent upon the change of currency necessitated in 1920 by the fluctuations of the Indian exchange.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

When the first European travellers arrived in Uganda they found among the Bantu, and notably among the Baganda, developed political organizations of a sort above the average of African

indigenous civilizations. There existed within the principal Bantu tribes a central monarchy and Governmental machinery of a nature superficially resembling the feudal system. British administration was based to a great extent on these existing organizations, and, upon the pacification of the country following the capture of Mwanga and Kabarega, it devolved upon Sir H. H. Johnston, as Her Majesty's Special Commissioner, to make arrangements which defined the functions of the Native Governments of Buganda, Toro, and Ankole, and their relations with the suzerain Power. Agreements to this effect were formally concluded between 1900 and 1902.

During the succeeding period the work of extending British administration over the more primitive peoples of the Protectorate went steadily ahead, and was made easier, in the Eastern Province, by the enterprise and co-operation of Buganda Chiefs and agents. Apart from the murder of the British Sub-Commissioner in Ankole in 1905, which rendered necessary the suspension of the Ankole Agreement for a time, the years of administrative expansion were without any serious incident, and the population has continued to acquiesce in European rule.

From its establishment the Protectorate was administered by a Commissioner until 1907, when Sir H. Hesketh Bell was appointed the first Governor. In 1921, Executive and Legislative Councils were established, the latter containing nominated non-official members among a majority of official members.

Since 1926, when the Rudolf Province was formally transferred to Kenya Colony, the Protectorate has been divided into four provinces—Buganda, Eastern, Western, and Northern. The Buganda Province is on an entirely different footing from the remainder, since, under the terms of the Uganda Agreement of 1900 the Kabaka exercises direct rule over his own nationals "to whom he shall administer justice through the Lukiko, or Native Council, and through others of his officers in the manner approved by Her Majesty's Government." The Lukiko is constituted as follows:—

The Kabaka's three Ministers (Prime Minister, Chief Justice, and Treasurer).

The 20 County Chiefs or their lieutenants.

Three Notables from each County, selected by the Kabaka.

Six other persons of importance in the country, appointed by the Kabaka.

All Chiefs are appointed by the Kabaka and his Ministers with the approval of His Majesty's representative, and the Kabaka and Lukiko, with the consent of the Governor, have the power to make laws governing the Baganda in Buganda.

In the other three Provinces, Native Administrations are recognized which are constituted to a greater or lesser degree, in accordance with the degree of advancement attained by the

tribes concerned, on the model of Buganda. A Native Administration exists in each District or tribal area of the Eastern, Western, and Northern Provinces, the Councils being composed of the County Chiefs and their sub-Chiefs who may for routine purposes be represented by their subordinate Chiefs. In these Provinces the Paramount Chief, where such an office exists, is controlled and advised in the exercise of his authority by the Provincial Administration. The Councils have no legislative powers except the power, subject to the Governor's pleasure, to alter by resolution Native Law and to fix penalties for its breach. Except in regard to the judicial functions of Native Courts and to routine matters of administration, the Native Administrations in these Provinces are, in fact, advisory bodies only. They are permanently in session for the purpose of dealing with magisterial and routine matters and submit to the District Commissioner, from time to time, their views on such subjects as :—

- (a) Proposed alterations to tribal customary law.
- (b) Matters affecting the expenditure of Native Administration funds for the benefit of the tribe.
- (c) Agricultural and veterinary development and labour questions.
- (d) Food crops and famine.
- (e) Other matters affecting the tribe upon which they may from time to time be consulted by the District Commissioner.

In Provinces other than Buganda, Native Administrations, as such, are not concerned with the appointment and dismissal of Chiefs, the merits of individuals being considered by the District Commissioner in consultation with the Native Advisers and Elders as occasion demands (or with the Paramount Chief where such exists) and with the County Chief under whom the candidate has recently been serving. The dismissal and appointment of County Chiefs is in the hands of the Governor, while the Provincial Commissioner exercises these powers, under delegation from the Governor, in respect of all Chiefs of lower rank.

The establishment and jurisdiction of Native Courts are at present governed by the Courts Ordinance, but a draft Bill defining more particularly the constitution, functions, and powers of Native Courts is now under consideration. In Buganda the judicial functions of the Lukiko are performed by a Court consisting of the Kabaka (President), the native "Chief Justice" (Vice-President), the other two Ministers, *ex officio*, the Assistant to the "Chief Justice," and two permanent representatives of the Lukiko, appointed by the Kabaka with the approval of the Governor. This Court has full jurisdiction in Buganda (original, appellate, and revisional) in cases in which all parties are natives of the

Protectorate, subject to the reservation of certain classes of cases for trial by British Courts. Apart from the Courts Ordinance, Chiefs and Native Administrations in Provinces other than Buganda derive their authority from the Native Authority Ordinance.

As regards finance, estimates are compiled annually for all Native Administrations and submitted to the Governor for approval. The main items of revenue are poll tax rebate; refund of busulu (a tax levied in lieu of tribal obligations formerly exacted by Chiefs and collected with the poll tax for the sake of convenience); luwalo commutation (the amount payable by certain classes of persons in lieu of unpaid compulsory labour on native public works); together with fines and fees imposed by Native Courts. All Native Administration Accounts are audited by the Protectorate Auditor. The Native Administrations themselves contribute a certain sum annually from their funds towards the cost of audit.

African Civil Service.

The policy of the Government is gradually to build up an African Civil Service, analogous to the existing European and Asiatic Civil Services, from which may be filled, in the first instance, the more subordinate posts, clerical or professional, in Government Departments. For this purpose courses for the training or preliminary training of Africans in clerical and professional duties have been established at Makerere College. By the end of the year under review a total of 29 clerks had completed their clerical training, passed the leaving examination and become eligible for absorption into Government Departments as permanent and pensionable Civil Servants on probation. The clerical leaving examination has now become a competitive examination with a minimum standard of efficiency. In addition to the above 30 Africans after general preliminary and departmental professional training had also become eligible.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

Racial Distribution.

The African peoples of the Protectorate, numbering 3,536,267 according to the census* of 1931, are divisible into three racial groups—Bantu, Nilotic, and Hamitic. The most numerous are the Bantu, comprising the Baganda, Banyoro, Batoro, Banyankole, Basoga, and other smaller tribes or sections of tribes who inhabit all that part of the country south and west of the Victoria Nile,

* The "census figures" to which reference is made in this Chapter are not the final figures. They may, however, be regarded as sufficiently accurate for practical purposes, and have been used in the compilation of this Report and of the Blue Book.

and certain districts in the Eastern Province. To the north and north-west are the principal Nilotic tribes—the Lango, the Acholi, and the Alur, and the unclassified Lugbara and Madi; the Teso people of the Eastern Province constitute the most important units among the Hamitic tribes; the others are scattered over a wide area in that part of the Protectorate adjacent to Kenya, from the Sudan boundary in the extreme north-east to Mount Elgon. Mention should also be made, however, of the interesting Bahima and allied tribes of the Western Province. From the former are derived the ruling families of Buganda, Bunyoro, Toro, and Ankole.

Vital Statistics.

The returns of vital statistics for the year are set out in Tables A and B and in greater detail in Section 15 of the Blue Book. A census was made on 29th May, 1931. In many districts a considerable discrepancy was apparent between the census population of 1931, and the estimated population appearing in the Blue Book for 1930, and as the birth- and death-rates for 1931 are calculated upon the census figures and those for 1930 on the estimated population, the discrepancy is reflected in the birth- and death-rates of the districts concerned.

The position revealed by the census figures of 1931 and compared with the figure of the 1921 census is more satisfactory than would have been inferred from the birth- and death-rates. A considerable increase of population is shown in every district with the exception of Karamoja, and in this instance the 1921 census figure was an estimate only, as the district was not then administered fully. In some instances the increase of population over the decennium is so high that it can hardly be accounted for by excess of births over deaths. In Busoga, for instance, an annual increase of population of 55·7 per thousand per annum is recorded, and in Toro the annual incremental rate is 51·3 per thousand per annum. In other instances, the census figures for the decennium are directly opposed to general belief based upon observation and vital statistics, as in the instance of Bunyoro, which has always been regarded as a district with a decreasing population. The census shows that the population of Bunyoro has increased from 98,573 in 1921 to 114,220 in 1931, an annual rate of increase of 14·8 per thousand.

An attempt was made to check the rates of increase revealed by the census figures in each district by the number of actual poll tax payers. The earliest records available for poll tax payers were those for 1925, and a scrutiny was made of all returns for that year and for 1931. In a normal year over 95 per cent. of those from whom tax is due, pay the tax during the year, three per cent. defer payment until the following year and a few pay in subsequent years. In abnormal years of famine or crop failure many of the inhabitants of affected districts may find it impossible to pay their tax in the year in which it is due, and as many as 30 to 40 per cent.

may defer payment until the following or subsequent years. It follows that considerable discrepancy may arise by a survey of any one year, and that a true estimate can only be obtained by a survey of returns for the year concerned and for two subsequent years. In consequence discrepancies were apparent in the results of the survey undertaken, but the indications were definite that neither the census figures nor the vital statistics returns gave an entirely accurate picture of the true state of affairs in the districts.

It would appear that one of the disturbing factors in both methods of calculation is that of immigration and emigration. For many years there has been a constant stream of native labour from Belgian Ruanda into Uganda. Of late the stream has slackened, but there appears to be a greater tendency now for these immigrants to settle permanently in the country with their families. Labourers from the West Nile spread all over the Protectorate, and it may be possible that a similar immigration from the Congo to the West Nile and so over the Protectorate is occurring and being followed by permanent settlement. Such immigrants would escape the payment of poll tax for a short time and would escape also the registration of births and deaths occurring amongst them for a longer time, because they would not immediately come within the tribal organization of their adopted district. It is difficult to estimate to what extent they would figure in the census.

Birth- and Death-rates.—The birth-rate for the Protectorate was 29·12 and the death-rate 21·75 and the variation from last year was slight.

The provincial rates show no great variation from previous years, although considerable variations are apparent in the rates for districts. This is largely accounted for by the difference of the district populations recorded in the 1931 census and the 1930 Blue Book. Provincial and Protectorate populations did not show the same variation.

Still-birth rate.—The rate for the Protectorate is 4·53 per cent. compared with 4·06 per cent. in 1930. The rate varied from 0·87 per cent. in Teso to 21·13 per cent. in Bunyoro.

Infantile Mortality Rate.—The rate for the Protectorate was 209·71 per thousand births which represents the lowest rate yet recorded. The highest district rate is 377·57 in Bunyoro, a considerable increase over previous recorded rates for this district.

Maternal Mortality Rate.—The rate for the Protectorate per thousand births and still-births is 14·60 compared with 15·74 recorded in 1930. The rate is extremely high compared with European standards and is a concomitant of the almost universal native custom of administering ecobolics to women at the time of child birth.

European Officials.

The officials included in Table D below are those officials whose names appear in the Protectorate Staff List only. Wives and families are not included nor are officials of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours whose names do not appear in the Staff List. The reason for the latter omission is that these officials, such as engine drivers and guards, are not stationed in Uganda, and enter and leave the Protectorate continually in the course of their duties. In their case it would not be possible to give either the total or the average number resident.

TABLE D.

Table showing the sick, invaliding, and death rates of European officials during the last three years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Total number of officials resident	573	590	607
Average number resident	394	396	431
Total number on sick list	693	1,116	1,075
Total number of days on sick list	2,607	2,871	3,053
Average daily number on sick list	7.14	7.86	8.35
Percentage of sick to average number resident	1.81	1.98	1.93
Average number of days on sick list each patient	3.76	2.57	2.84
Average sick time, each resident	6.61	7.22	7.08
Total number invalided	5	2	6
Percentage of invalidings to total residents	0.87	0.34	0.98
Total deaths	2	2	2
Percentage of deaths to total residents	0.35	0.34	0.33
Percentage of deaths to average number resident	0.50	0.50	0.46
Number of cases of sickness contracted away from station.	No record.		
Number granted local sick leave	26	28	31
Average number of days sick leave for each patient granted local sick leave.	17.50	18.32	16.35

The most common diseases suffered from were :—

Malaria	555
Diseases of digestive system	53
Diseases of respiratory system	41
Injuries	48
Asthenia	14
Influenza	6
Dysentery	3
Boils and skin	35

Medical Boards were held to inquire into the health of six sick European officials during the year and the following recommendations were made :—

(a) To be invalided out of the service	4
B. Coli cystitis	1
Neurosis following trypanosomiasis	1
Asthma, tachycardia	1
Arterio sclerosis of the coronary arteries	1

(b) To proceed on short leave to England	2
Asthma	1
Dermatitis herpetiforme	1

One official who was sent on sick leave to England in 1930 was invalided out of the service in 1931 on the recommendation of a Consulting Physician to the Colonial Office.

Three officers were examined by Medical Boards with a view to ascertaining :—

(a) Fitness to become contributors to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	2
(b) To decide on extent of disability due to Government service	1

Deaths.—Three deaths amongst European officials are recorded, two of which occurred in Uganda and one in England while the officer was on leave. The causes of death were :—

- (a) Died in sleep (heart failure).
- (b) Bronchitis.
- (c) Blackwater fever.

European Non-Officials.

The number of cases who attended Government hospitals during the year was 2,216 compared with 1,714 in the previous year. 1013 of these cases were either officials not included in Table D above or the wives and families of officials, and the remaining 1,203 cases were patients unconnected with Government.

There were 26 deaths recorded as compared with 11 for the previous year, and the following list shows the cause in each case :—

Appendicitis and malaria	1
Ruptured bladder	1
Bronchitis and asthma	1
Adeno carcinoma of prostate	1
Myocardial degeneration	1
Syncopal attack	1
Amoebic dysentery	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1
Blackwater fever	4
Malaria and pneumonia	1
Pneumonia	2
Acute bright's disease	1
Drowning	4
(1 result of motor accident).	
Accident, motor	1
Suicide	1
Cancer	1
Exophthalmic goitre	1
Toxaemia following quinsy	1
Malaria	1
	<hr/> 26

The principal causes of sickness were :—

						<i>Cases.</i>
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	466
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	6
Diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	...	78
Diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	77
Boils and skin	...	...	...	...	...	18
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	41
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cellulitis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	6

Asiatic Officials.

In Table E below, the wives and families of officials and officials employed by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours are omitted in the same manner as in Table D. Artizans employed by the Public Works Department are also omitted, as they are all on temporary agreement and come and go continuously.

A more accurate basis of calculation has been employed this year and the figures for the two previous years are adjusted accordingly.

TABLE E.

Table showing the sick, invaliding, and death rates of Asiatic officials during the last three years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Total number of officials resident	382	403	384
Average number resident	338	359	335
Total number on sick list	1,227	1,108	871
Total number of days on sick list	3,163	3,673	2,551
Average daily number on sick list	8·66	10·06	6·98
Percentage of sick to average number resident	2·56	2·80	2·08
Average number of days on sick list for each patient	2·57	3·31	2·92
Average sick time, each resident	9·35	10·23	7·61
Total number invalided	2	2	6
Percentage of invalidings to total residents	·52	·49	1·56
Total deaths	3	1	7
Percentage of deaths to total residents	·78	·24	1·82
Percentage of deaths to average number resident	·88	·27	2·00
Number of cases of sickness contracted away from station.	No record.		
Number granted local sick leave	10	5	10
Average number of days on sick leave for each patient granted sick leave.	18	24	18

The most common diseases for which medical attention was sought were :—

Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	739
Diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	...	64
Diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	91
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	47
Boils and skin	...	...	...	...	...	27
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	12
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	30
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	5

Medical Boards.—Six Asiatic officials were invalided out of the service on the recommendations of Medical Boards, the causes of invaliding being :—

- (a) Partial residual paralysis.
- (b) Melancholia—blackwater fever.
- (c) Organic mitral incompetence.
- (d) Diabetes.
- (e) General debility.
- (f) Neurasthenia.

The official invalided on account of neurasthenia was boarded in Bombay.

Deaths.—Seven deaths are recorded amongst Asiatic officials, the causes of death being :—

(a) Chronic nephritis and myocarditis	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Acute nephritis—heart failure	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Blackwater fever	...	...	...	...	1
(d) Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
(e) Motor cycle accident	...	...	...	...	1
(f) Typhoid fever	...	...	...	...	1
(g) Bright's disease	...	...	...	...	1

Asiatic Non-officials.

6,379 cases presented themselves for treatment during the year. Of these 1,884 were the wives and families of officials, officials of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, or artisans employed by the Public Works Department. There were 6,728 cases in 1930. There were 104 deaths compared with 86 in the previous year.

The following are the causes of death :—

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	28
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	14
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	4

Carried forward ... 46

Brought forward					46
Blackwater fever	...	...	...	...	21
Cerebral malaria	...	...	...	...	5
Empyema	...	...	...	...	1
V. D. H.	...	...	...	...	1
Abscess of lung	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2
Bright's disease	...	...	...	...	2
Pulmonary phthisis	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide (drowning)	...	...	...	...	1
Abortion	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus	...	...	...	...	2
Premature birth	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis and meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2
Pernicious anaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1
Myocarditis	...	...	...	...	1
Delayed labour	...	...	...	...	1
Infantile convulsions	...	...	...	...	1
Thrush	...	...	...	...	1
					104

The principal causes of sickness were :—

Malaria	...	...	...	...	2,975
Injuries	...	...	...	...	97
Diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	272
Diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	182
Boils and skin	...	...	...	...	120
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	16
Influenza	...	...	...	...	33
Asthma	...	...	...	...	11
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	10

Migration Statistics.

Classification.			Immigrants.		Emigrants.		Excess.	
			1930.	1931.	1930.	1931.		
Europeans	...	...	657	601	650	689	+ 7	- 88
Asiatics	...	...	2,324	1,933	2,049	2,388	+ 275	- 455
Others...	...	...	101	76	105	57	- 4	+ 19
Total	...	...	3,082	2,610	2,804	3,134	+ 278	- 524

TABLE A.

Return showing Birth, Death, Stillbirth and Infantile Mortality Rates for the Uganda Protectorate for the last five years.

Provinces and District.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Population.					Death-rate per 1,000 Population.					Stillbirth rate per 100 Births and Still-Births.					Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.					Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births and Still-Births.	
	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1930	1931
Buganda...	21.73	19.50	19.78	19.70	19.70	17.18	18.98	18.47	20.77	19.46	5.31	4.82	6.65	3.45	4.29	130.27	155.32	112.86	128.16	113.21	10.23	9.07
E. Province	29.27	25.84	27.60	30.80	31.72	—	—	—	23.71	24.12	—	—	—	3.85	4.10	298.59	313.88	253.54	218.55	196.57	14.45	12.94
Western ...	41.97	40.97	38.28	34.55	33.95	—	—	—	21.69	21.87	—	—	—	3.37	3.83	318.52	271.57	290.57	256.57	243.08	14.83	12.85
Northern...	36.09	34.07	31.63	34.30	31.95	—	—	—	20.21	19.26	—	—	—	6.06	6.60	254.55	201.26	225.16	288.15	289.18	25.27	27.19
Uganda Protectorate.	29.94	28.14	28.13	29.19	29.18	—	—	—	22.06	21.75	—	—	—	4.06	4.53	259.73	254.35	232.75	223.65	209.71	15.74	14.60

TABLE B.

Table showing increase or decrease of births over deaths for five districts for the last 16 years.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Buganda.</i>	<i>Busoga.</i>	<i>Bunyoro.</i>	<i>Ankole.</i>	<i>Toro.</i>	<i>Total Increment.</i>
1916 ...	... - 3,065	+ 4,322	- 517	+ 98	+ 1,864	+ 3,402
1917 ...	... - 4,385	+ 2,240	- 1,466	+ 857	+ 1,583	- 1,171
1918 ...	... - 3,873	+ 1,553	- 2,851	+ 776	+ 1,657	- 2,738
1919 ...	... - 5,709	- 3,135	- 2,061	- 1,870	- 176	- 12,951
1920 ...	... - 2,204	+ 2,025	- 1,012	+ 496	+ 907	+ 212
1921 ...	... - 711	- 1,483	- 997	+ 889	+ 1,896	- 406
1922 ...	... - 1,458	+ 2,953	- 891	+ 1,503	+ 1,872	+ 3,979
1923 ...	... - 624	+ 2,194	- 856	+ 1,611	+ 1,670	+ 3,995
1924 ...	... + 37	+ 3,295	- 970	+ 2,329	+ 2,924	+ 7,615
1925 ...	... + 1,059	+ 5,726	- 818	+ 3,727	+ 3,253	+ 12,947
1926 ...	... + 1,179	+ 5,314	- 500	+ 2,891	+ 3,602	+ 12,486
1927 ...	... + 3,475	+ 5,703	- 443	+ 4,446	+ 3,955	+ 17,136
1928 ...	... + 1,091	+ 4,656	- 492	+ 4,848	+ 3,686	+ 13,789
1929 ...	... + 1,357	+ 5,572	- 329	+ 4,238	+ 3,505	+ 14,343
1930 ...	... - 940	+ 3,799	- 801	+ 3,139	+ 1,571	+ 6,768
1931 ...	... + 213	+ 3,084	- 406	+ 2,945	+ 497	+ 6,333

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Native Cases.

There was a general increase in the number of new cases and attendances during the year, the cases rising from 642,349 in 1930 to 661,658 in 1931, and the attendances from 2,762,948 to 2,842,769. 1,280 deaths were reported compared with 1,356 in 1930.

Of the new cases treated, epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases accounted for 193,005 cases, or 29.2 per cent. of the total cases, and for 379 deaths or 31 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

Syphilis, which is very prevalent in all areas except the Northern Province, accounted for 64,591 cases or 33.5 per cent., malaria for 50,180 cases or 26 per cent., and yaws for 47,598 cases or 24.7 per cent., so that these three diseases accounted for over 80 per cent. of the cases under this group.

Of the remaining diseases of this group, trypanosomiasis accounted for 513 cases with 117 deaths; of those who died, only 23 were known to have definitely succumbed to the disease, the others, who had at one time or another suffered from sleeping sickness, having died of some inter-current disease.

As regards plague there was a slight fall as compared with last year, 2,378 cases and 2,299 deaths being reported.

The districts mainly affected were :

Teso ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,176 cases.
Mengo...	...	...	...	...	...	402 „
Busoga	...	...	...	...	...	288 „
Bugwere	...	...	...	...	...	246 „

There were 33 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis with 22 deaths ; blackwater fever, 162 cases with 43 deaths ; relapsing fever, 871 cases with 12 deaths ; dysentery, 2,545 cases with 37 deaths ; tuberculosis, 363 cases with 56 deaths ; influenza, 5,706 cases with 4 deaths ; enteric fever, 65 cases with 14 deaths.

Helminthic diseases.—The most important of these were ankylostomiasis, 836 cases with 23 deaths, and schistosomiasis, 19 cases with 3 deaths.

General diseases.—39,869 cases with 30 deaths were recorded, percentage incidence being 6 per cent. of total number of new cases.

Sixty-eight cases of cancer were diagnosed, 13 of whom died.

Affections of nervous system and sense organs accounted for 60,269 cases with 35 deaths, conjunctivitis alone accounting for 29,749 of these cases. Incidence 9·2 per cent.

The circulatory system.—2,996 cases with 45 deaths.

The respiratory system.—83,172 cases with 290 deaths, of which 2,802 cases and 274 deaths were due to pneumonia. The number of pneumonic cases and deaths was less than that recorded in the two previous years. Incidence 12·6 per cent.

The digestive system.—87,289 cases with 133 deaths. Incidence 13·2 per cent.

The genito urinary system.—2,473 cases with 40 deaths.

Affections of skin and cellular tissue.—109,522 cases with 51 deaths compared to 87,188 cases with 56 deaths in 1930. Incidence 16·5 per cent.

Affections produced by external causes.—72,761. Incidence 11 per cent.

Non-Native Cases.

There was an increase in the number of European cases treated, the figures being 3,291 compared with 2,830 and 2,536 in the two previous years, and a decrease in the number of Asiatic cases, the figures for the latter being 7,883 compared to 8,264 and 9,119 in 1930 and 1929.

The principal causes of disease among both Europeans and Asiatics were malaria and diseases of the respiratory and digestive

systems. There were 29 deaths among Europeans, of whom three were officials, one of whom died at home while on leave, and 111 deaths among Asiatics, of whom seven were officials. Fifty-one of the deaths among Asiatics were due to pneumonia and black-water fever.

Six European officials and six Asiatic officials were invalided.

Provision for Treatment.

In regard to provision for treatment, this is as follows :—

There are throughout the Protectorate four European hospitals, three of which are cottage hospitals, ten Asiatic hospitals, of which nine are small cottage hospitals, and 23 hospitals for Africans. The accommodation of the latter provides for 1,222 beds.

Besides the above there are 78 sub-dispensaries, each connected with a district hospital. At these alone 407,893 new cases were seen during the year, 1,804,329 attendances were recorded, and 5,586 cases admitted to wards. The various Missions also maintain hospitals and dispensaries. The Church Missionary Society take European and Asiatic patients into their hospital at Namirembe (Kampala), and Europeans into their hospital at Fort Portal; and the Mill Hill Mission take Asiatics into their hospital at Nsambya (Kampala).

Small hospitals and dispensaries are attached to most Mission stations, including those belonging to the Algerian and Italian Missions.

Leper Settlement.—Except for a few settlements maintained by the Native Administrations, the inmates of whom receive treatment at the Government hospitals and sub-dispensaries, the treatment and care of lepers is in the hands of the Missionary Societies whose work for this purpose is helped by Government, in the form of donations, grants of land at nominal rents, and occasional free labour, and by donations from the Mission to lepers, the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association and its local branch. No compulsion of any description is used to induce the lepers either to attend for treatment or to enter the settlements, but Administrative Officers use all other means to encourage lepers to make use of the facilities offered.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There are two training schools for African midwives, the Lady Coryndon Maternity Training School supported by the Church Missionary Society and the Nsambya Training School supported by the Mill Hill Mission. Registered midwives are employed at Government hospitals and at the various district Maternity and Child Welfare Centres attached to the two training schools.

Preventive Measures.

Malaria.—Routine anti-mosquito measures in all townships, reclamation, and anti-malarial afforestation. Surveys have been carried out in the Eastern Province and at Fort Portal in the Western Province. Major schemes for dealing with Kampala, Entebbe, and Jinja were placed before the Central Town Planning Board at the end of the year.

Smallpox.—118,939 vaccinations were performed during the year. There were no cases.

Plague.—Acting on the recommendations of Sir Edward Thornton, the practice of burning and de-thatching infected huts has been replaced by fumigation with “Cyanogas” and the results have been very encouraging. Inoculation with vaccine is now only carried out on actual close contacts and members of the plague staff, and quarantine is now only insisted on for contacts of cases of pneumonic plague. Rat destruction was continued and every effort made to improve general sanitation in and around native villages.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Among the general population, the type of dwelling varies with the district and directly with the affluence of the occupier. The local peasant and labouring classes are generally content with mud and wattle, grass-roofed huts, generally of the round type, while those who have some education or position—chiefs, clerks, and others who find employment in more or less skilled occupations, and certain of the more advanced cattle-owners and agriculturists—usually live in well built mud and wattle houses of the ridge-pole type containing two or three or even more rooms. These latter are in the main grass-roofed, but more and more natives are now using corrugated iron sheeting for the roofs and even, in some cases, bricks for the construction of the walls.

Under the Masters and Servants Ordinance, all employers of labour, whether Government or not, must house their labour satisfactorily and also see that sanitary arrangements are satisfactory, unless the labourers have their own homes, or are able to obtain proper lodging, near by. Draft rules have been drawn up dealing with housing, and specifying materials, spacing of huts, area per inmate, and general sanitary measures which are considered indispensable for the good health of the labour. It is not intended to apply those rules to temporary or prospecting camps, or where, in view of the probable manner of life of those occupying the camp, the expense would be unjustifiable.

Regulations for the employment of unskilled labour apply to all Government labour, and deal with not only housing and sanitation but also fuel and water-supply, rations, and medical attendance.

The Railway houses its permanent labour in landies generally constructed of concrete blocks with cement floors. These landies consist of a varying number of units and have verandahs running the whole length of the building, but there are partitions between each unit.

Government labour working at the headquarters of districts is, where necessary, housed in labour camps, the buildings of which are of a temporary nature, and are built in accordance with plans drawn up by the Labour Department.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

There are indications of the existence in the Protectorate of a wide range of minerals including tin, gold, salt, iron, copper, silver, nickel, cobalt, tungsten, tantalum, bismuth, and petroleum; of these tin and gold alone have as yet been discovered in quantities justifying commercial exploitation and export.

Local conditions, in particular the climate, and the necessity for close supervision in the interests of the native cultivators, render the country generally unsuitable for exploitation by the European small-worker, and prospecting and mining is for the most part carried on by substantial companies or syndicates.

Exports of tin ore were, in 1931, 149,903 long tons (ascertained dry weight) of a value of £12,522 6s. 83cts., comparing with 362,537 tons valued at £34,872 7s. 84cts. in 1930. The reduction is attributable to a restriction of output following the low price of the metal throughout the world. All tin ore was mined in the Ankole District, and is almost entirely the produce of one mine at Mwirasandu.

Gold, recovered from alluvials in the Kigezi District, was won in commercial quantities for the first time in the history of the Protectorate. 71·1 oz. of a value of £400 17s. 92cts. were exported.

No great difficulty is encountered in recruiting from local or near neighbouring sources the limited amount of labour required for prospecting and mining purposes. A 30-day ticket is usually adopted, but employers suffer from the native disposition to work for only a few months on end, and this absence of continuity renders training difficult.

The production of salt is a native industry. Operations at the Katwe and Kasenyi Salt Lakes and at the Kibiro Hot Springs are in charge of the Native Governments of Toro and Bunyoro respectively. The total production from all sources amounted in 1931 to 4,206,510 lb., the whole of which was absorbed by the local native market. The untreated salt is not palatable to Europeans but is much appreciated by natives.

The Protectorate is rich in iron ore, but insignificant quantities only are smelted by native iron workers. Brick clay, laterite and other common building materials are excavated to meet local requirements.

Agriculture.

With cotton lint and cotton seed exports representing over 83 per cent. of the value of the total exports from the Protectorate in 1931, it will be realized that, cotton being almost entirely a native grown crop, the agricultural production of the Protectorate is preponderantly in the hands of the native cultivators. Non-native agriculture mainly centres round the production of coffee, rubber, tea, and sugar.

NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

Economic Crops.

(a) *Cotton*.—Cotton is grown throughout the Eastern, Buganda, and Northern Provinces and in the Toro and Ankole Districts of the Western Province. Figures of acreage and production during the last few years are given below :—

<i>Season.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Production. Bales of 400 lb.</i>	<i>Value at port of shipment, Mombasa. £</i>
1927-28	533,004	138,486	2,475,327
1928-29	699,107	204,057	3,312,667
1929-30	663,157	129,122	1,555,344
1930-31	739,690	188,920	1,503,307
1931-32	865,259	192,500*	—

The crop is peasant produced and is grown in small plots varying in size from a quarter of an acre to upwards of five acres in areas where ploughing is practised. Seed for planting is requisitioned by Government from the various ginneries and issued, free of charge, to growers. The cotton grown is of the American upland type, which commands a substantial premium over American middling.

Government has established two cotton-selection stations where improved varieties are produced, tested, and subsequently introduced into general cultivation. Marketing facilities are well organized. There are 194 ginneries in the Protectorate and numerous markets at convenient centres. The whole of the crop is exported.

With the extension of railway facilities within the Protectorate the economic zone for the export of cotton seed has been widened. Exports of cotton seed during recent years are as under :—

£		
1929—	67,523 tons valued at	424,000
1930—	33,578 „ „	137,387
1931—	45,435 „ „	149,224

1931-32 season.—A record acreage was planted with cotton during the season under review, the greatest increase being in Buganda Province. Weather conditions during the planting season,

* This figure is in respect of the period from 1st January to 4th June, 1932, only.

June to August, were very favourable and until October there was every promise of a record crop. After that date the abnormal continuance of the rains until the end of the year caused excessive vegetative growth, induced a high percentage of bud and boll shedding, and seriously reduced crop prospects. No widespread outbreaks of disease occurred. At the end of the year a crop of 200,000 bales was anticipated, and the final figures should show that the production has not fallen far short of this estimate.

(b) *Coffee*.—Both arabica and robusta are grown in areas climatically suited to the particular species. In Bugishu District some 2,000 acres are under arabica, grown by peasants in small plots. In this District during 1931 an important step has been taken to organize and control the marketing of the crop with the object, in time, of encouraging the formation amongst growers, of a co-operative selling society. As an initial step towards this development the Native Administration has erected pulping stations at convenient centres in the District and a central coffee factory, through which coffee purchased by the Native Administration passes prior to export. This organization should ensure that the producer will receive the maximum value for his produce, and, at the same time, that the coffee as exported is of a standard high-grade quality.

Arabica is also produced in Ankole District where there are some 1,200 acres under the crop. The whole is grown by peasant farmers. The crop in this District is still in the initial stages of development. A small amount of arabica is produced in Toro District. Robusta is grown in small plots throughout Buganda Province, and in the Bwamba area of Toro District. Though it is impossible accurately to estimate the acreage under the crop it is considered that there are between 15,000 and 17,000 acres. In all areas where coffee is grown Government maintains central and district nurseries where plants from selected seed are raised and issued free of charge to growers.

Export of coffee from the Protectorate (including non-native production) during 1931 amounted to 69,990 cwt., valued at £161,389 compared with 48,856 cwt. valued at £154,995 during 1930.

Oil Seeds—Groundnuts and Simsim.—The main centre of production is the Eastern Province. While the greater proportion of these crops is consumed locally as food, a small amount is exported.

The following table gives the estimated acreage under these crops and the quantities exported during the last two years :—

		1930.			1931.	
	<i>Acreage.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Acreage.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
			£			£
Groundnuts ...	96,544	1,289 tons	15,123	103,677	215 tons	2,076
Simsim seeds...	228,294	1,416 „	17,964	227,284	350 „	3,799
„ oil ...		2,522 imp. gals.	467		320 imp. gals.	48

(d) *Tobacco*.—In Bunyoro District the growing of tobacco by natives is making steady progress. Government controls and supervises the crop throughout all stages of growth from the establishment of seed beds to the curing, grading, and marketing of the leaf. Practically the whole of the crop is purchased by the British American Tobacco Company for use in their tobacco factory at Jinja.

The total crop produced during 1931 amounted to 188 tons of good quality fire-cured leaf, which resulted in approximately £5,305 being distributed to growers.

A small quantity of leaf (5 tons) was purchased by Government and exported to England in order to ascertain the market possibilities for the type of leaf produced.

Exports during 1931, including non-native produced tobacco, amounted to 133,597 pounds of unmanufactured tobacco and 46,474 pounds of cigarettes valued together at £17,530.

Food Crops.

The various tribes in the Protectorate fall into two main groups as regards the staple articles of diet, viz. :—

(a) Grain eaters.

(b) Plantain eaters.

The grain crops grown are millets, principally the small millet (*eleusine coracana*), and sorghum (*sorghum vulgare*).

Throughout the Eastern and Northern Provinces, where people are grain eaters, a system of communal food granaries has been organized as a precaution against famine. Each grower contributes annually to these granaries a small proportion of his crop. A reasonable reserve is gradually accumulated, and when this has been done a proportion of the old grain is each year replaced by fresh supplies.

Improved varieties of seed of all food crops are produced on Government experiment stations. In the Eastern Province stocks of such seed are increased, prior to general distribution, on numerous district plots maintained by the Native Administration under the supervision of Government.

NON-NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

Land Tenure.—Freehold is not now granted, but Crown land may be leased for agricultural purposes, the normal term being 99 years at a rental of 1s. per acre revisable after the thirty-third and sixty-sixth years. Such leases are arranged by private treaty and are subject to a condition that not less than three tenths of the area leased shall be brought under proper cultivation within three years of the commencement of the term. Prior to 1916 a limited area was granted in freehold and parcels may occasionally

be purchased in the open market. Extensive areas are held by natives under the terms of various treaties, and occasionally leases of small areas to non-natives are effected but such leases are subject to strict control.

Markets and Produce.

Most of the plantation crops are produced for export ; sugar is a notable exception and in a smaller way, tea also. Both sugar and tea are utilized for the local markets, either in Uganda or in the neighbouring territories and practically none is exported overseas. All produce for export is transported over the Kenya and Uganda Railways to the port of Mombasa, and thence by steamship to final destination.

Labour.

Labour is voluntary and is engaged either by the month or for a contract period of several months. Generally, up to 1923, the local labour supply was sufficient without recourse to foreign labour. It has, however, often been necessary to recruit labour from one district to another, usually from outlying districts where it has not yet been possible to establish economic crops. From 1923 to 1927 a shortage of labour was experienced and a considerable amount of foreign labour was admitted, mainly from Belgian Ruanda. The labour supply is now adequate for present needs. There are Government regulations regarding housing, food, and terms of contract, which have special reference to imported and foreign labour.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

European planting first commenced seriously a few years prior to the commencement of the War, and was confined entirely to the production of coffee and para rubber. Individual planters opened up estates and were followed by a number of small companies. In the slump of 1921, the whole of the industry was seriously affected by low prices and the companies suffered more severely. Many estates were either abandoned or closed down, but with the return of better prices for primary products, some of these were re-opened. Latterly there has been a tendency in some cases for the grouping of estates under one management. During 1926-7 there was an influx of a number of new planters taking up land for coffee planting in the Toro District. The present economic depression has seriously affected the planting industry and again many estates have been closed, more particularly those under the cultivation of rubber. There is no tendency for the number of European planters to increase materially and, save for the exceptional increase due to those attracted to the Toro District in 1926-7, the number has remained fairly constant. In 1931, there were 222 estates recorded by the Agricultural Department comprising 104,313 acres of which 25,120 acres were under cultivation.

European planters have confined themselves almost entirely to coffee and rubber, and latterly to tea and tobacco also. The arabica type of coffee was favoured in the earlier years but recently the robusta type with its qualities of high yielding and resistance to disease has found increasing favour, more particularly at the lower elevations and around the shores of Lake Victoria. Areas under coffee cultivation by Europeans were estimated in 1931 at 10,431 acres coffee arabica (3,779 in the Toro District) and 6,091 acres coffee robusta (5,050 in Buganda Province). Exports have already been shown under the paragraph headed "Coffee."

A fairly large acreage was originally put under para rubber—estimated at 10,563 acres in 1931—but owing to low prices very little tapping has taken place for the last two years and this has now practically ceased altogether. Many planters have closed their rubber areas and no attention is being given to the maintenance of cultivation, but many of these areas could be re-opened should tapping again become economic. The exports in 1930 were 6,270 centials valued at £16,814 but declined in 1931 to 1,334 centials valued at £2,291.

A few planters have experimented with tea production in the Mubende District and 1931 saw the crop extended to the Mengo District where 363 acres are now planted. The total acreage in 1931 was estimated at 639 acres.

A number of planters have successfully grown tobacco for export but the acreage, 269 acres in 1931, is small and the quantity produced is not yet very important.

ASIATIC AGRICULTURE.

Speaking generally, Indians have acquired the European estates which have been placed on the market from time to time, and many of the earlier freehold titles have thus changed hands. A notable exception was the enterprise of an important Indian firm in founding and developing a large sugar estate and factory in the Mengo District. The factory has a distillery for the production of alcohol. The same firm has started a new venture with sisal in the Bunyoro District on a leasehold area of 10,000 acres. 1,200 acres have been planted. A second sugar factory has recently been opened in the Busoga District. The acreage under sugar-cane is estimated at 8,565 acres and the two factories produced over 9,000 tons of white sugar in 1931.

The areas under coffee and rubber are mainly those taken over from previous European owners and in 1931 were estimated at :

Coffee arabica	...	...	...	...	406 acres.
Coffee robusta	...	...	...	...	631 "
Para rubber	...	...	...	...	1,896 "

There are records of 48 Indian estates comprising 46,996 acres of which 12,325 acres are under cultivation.

Livestock.

Stock is almost entirely native-owned, although Europeans are now developing a localized dairy industry which promises to be of a thoroughly satisfactory nature. The methods employed by the native stock-owners are still primitive in character, and such organization in relation to the care of herds, etc., as exists is largely based on custom. The Veterinary Department, however, is gradually improving conditions, and in particular exercises a close supervision in all matters relating to the eradication and control of stock diseases, and the measure of success achieved is reflected in the fact that the number of cattle in the Protectorate has increased from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 during the ten years between 1921 and 1931. Notable efforts have been made to restrict the incidence of rinderpest, which has in the past occasioned heavy losses among cattle, and the situation in regard to this epizootic is well in hand.

In endeavouring to place the native livestock industry upon a sound economic basis the Veterinary Department has concentrated upon the improvement of indigenous breeds of cattle in preference to the import of foreign breeds. The cross-breeding of local types of cattle with a view to developing an animal of greater general utility has been continued, but several years must elapse before the full results can be judged. Owners have been persuaded to submit indifferent male animals to castration, and to keep only a sufficient number of good quality. Nearly 58,000 castrations were carried out during 1931, and the steady reduction in the numbers of "scrub" bulls in the herds must eventually exercise a very beneficial influence on the stock and meat supplies of the country.

The chief stock trade-routes have been kept open throughout the greater part of the year, thus facilitating the movement of animals to the markets, and the internal trade in cattle is of fairly substantial proportions. During the year slaughter cattle valued at £12,800 were moved from the Eastern Province to Buganda, while breeding stock worth not less than £12,000 was sent to the Busoga District from other districts of the Eastern Province. In addition, Buganda absorbed stock from the Western Province to the value of about £37,000; and Bunyoro, where the herds were very severely reduced by disease, is being successfully re-stocked. Except for the movement of a few cattle from the West Nile District to the Belgian Congo, there is no export trade in livestock. The price of cattle fell during the year from £5 to £3 per head.

The hide and skin industry has suffered from the low prices ruling in the world's markets, and the following table of exports indicates the decrease in production :—

		1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Hides	{ Quantity, Cwt. ...	29,619	58,364	35,099	21,493	19,886
	{ Value	£99,542	£257,287	£152,543	£49,519	£36,865
Skins	{ Quantity, No. ...	78,411	163,042	258,045	205,200	130,670
	{ Value	£4,090	£8,038	£12,901	£7,670	£5,226

There is reason to believe, however, that the buyers held large stocks at the end of 1931. The industry has been hampered by the "flat rate" system of buying, which has afforded no encouragement to the natives to produce skins of good quality. Demonstration posts have, however, been established, and the natives are instructed in flaying and skinning, and in shade-drying.

Steps have been taken to organize the ghee industry in the Eastern Province, and demonstrations of the best method of manufacturing ghee that is palatable and free from impurities have been given to native cattle-owners. The early results are distinctly promising. During 1931, 1,727 cwt. of ghee having a value of £5,572 was imported into the Protectorate, and there is no reason why a similar amount should not be made by Uganda natives for the local market.

During the year, operations were set in progress with a view to reclaiming large tracts of pasture-land which were rendered unsuitable for cattle by infestations of tsetse-fly (*glossina morsitans*). The problem of affording adequate water and food supplies for increasing herds is of very considerable importance, and it is hoped that the preliminary work which has been carried out in the Ankole District of the Western Province will facilitate the reclamation of other fly areas in different parts of the Protectorate.

Fisheries.

Throughout the Protectorate fisheries are entirely in native hands, and there is a certain amount of local trade in fresh and dried fish in the districts readily accessible from the shores of the principal lakes. There are certain restrictions upon fishing in sleeping sickness areas, upon the type of vessels which may be employed, and upon the mesh of the nets used, but otherwise the industry is not controlled.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

General.

Uganda and Kenya form a single unit for purposes of Customs and there is in consequence complete freedom of trade between the territories. A detailed examination of the external trade of Uganda alone is therefore a matter of considerable difficulty, more particularly as virtually the whole of the import and export trade of both Dependencies passes through Mombasa, the principal port in Kenya. As a result, the combined trade figures represent generally the landed value at Mombasa in the case of imports, and the "f.o.b. Mombasa" value in the case of exports, these being the declared values for purposes of Customs.

As, however, the division of Customs revenue is based on the consumption of dutiable articles in each territory, every endeavour is made to determine the imports into Uganda with the greatest possible accuracy, exports being differentiated as regards the country of origin in accordance with the declaration of shippers. Succeeding paragraphs under the headings of "Imports" and "Exports" deal briefly with the information so obtained.

Crop yields during the year were generally satisfactory, but despite an increased volume of exports, a continued fall in world market prices resulted in a decrease of £82,191 in the value of total shipments of Uganda produce; in consequence, trading conditions were difficult, importations being restricted to minimum requirements.

Imports.

The total value of trade imports into Uganda for consumption in the Protectorate was £1,308,726 as compared with £1,614,164 in 1930, a decrease in value of £305,438, which was due in some measure to the reduced costs of imported materials.

For the reasons given in the first paragraph in this Chapter, import figures are of necessity quoted in terms of "ex ship Mombasa," the cost of freight and handling through Kenya to Uganda not being included.

Cotton tissues and manufactures as in previous years constitute the most important item of import trade. Details are as follows:—

	1930.	1931.
	£	£
Cotton piece-goods	319,940	307,554
Cotton blankets	34,356	30,538
Other cotton manufactures ...	8,885	9,125
Total... ..	363,181	347,217

Tobacco.—The value of imports of cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco amounted to £80,906, as compared with £76,228 in 1930.

Other imports.—Increases are recorded in the figures relating to cement, motor spirit, and cycle tyres, while decreases are shown in respect of all other imported trade goods. The value of Kenya produce imported for consumption in the Protectorate during the year amounted to £146,166 as compared with £182,026 in 1930, the principal commodities being:—soap (£32,354), wheat meal and flour (£16,684), tea (£9,501), butter (£6,075), beer (£4,326), timber (£3,966), and bacon and ham (£3,371).

Exports.

The total value of the domestic exports of Uganda during 1931, in terms of "f.o.b. value Mombasa" was £1,978,262 as against £2,060,453 in respect of the previous year, representing a decrease in the value of exports of £82,191, or approximately 4 per cent.

Cotton is predominant in the list of exports, representing in conjunction with cotton seed 83.5 per cent. of the total domestic exports of the Protectorate in the year under review. Shipments of lint cotton in 1931 totalled 755,680 centals, of a value of £1,503,307, as compared with 516,489 centals, valued at £1,555,344, exported in 1930, an increase of 239,191 centals in weight but a decrease of £52,037 in value. The declared value per cental of 100 lb. was £1 19s. 9d. as against £3 0s. 2d. in 1930 and £4 1s. 2d. in 1929.

The market for raw cotton appears to be concentrating upon India, shipments to that country being valued at £1,380,062 or 91.4 per cent. of the total value of exports of this commodity.

Cotton Seed.—45,435 tons of cotton seed, of a value of £149,224, were exported in 1931, as compared with 33,578 tons, valued at £137,387, shipped during the previous year, an increase of 11,857 tons in quantity and £11,837 in value. The United Kingdom continued to be the principal market.

Coffee shipments amounted to 69,990 cwt. in quantity and £161,389 in value as compared with 48,856 cwt. valued at £154,996 in 1930, an increase of 21,134 cwt. in quantity and £6,393 in value.

Sugar.—Exports of sugar increased from 6,669 cwt. valued at £8,719 in 1930 to 44,995 cwt. valued at £46,576 in 1931, shipments being almost wholly to Tanganyika Territory.

Other Produce.—Increased shipments of cigarettes are recorded but exports of hides, skins, and tin ore were considerably reduced.

The principal markets to which the exports of the Protectorate were consigned during 1931 were as follows:—

<i>Country.</i>	<i>Article.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
			£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Coffee	Cwt. 18,954	43,150
	Tobacco (unmanufactured)	lb. 127,652	4,857
	Tin ore	Ton 154	22,176
	Cotton (raw)	Cental 66,660	123,144
	Cotton seeds	Ton 44,364	145,476
	Hides	Cwt. 9,131	16,805
	Skins (sheep and goat) ...	No. 102,670	4,106
	Rubber (plantation) ...	Cental 1,334	2,291
	Ivory (elephant)	Cwt. 248	10,204
	Gold bullion	Oz. Troy 69	390
	Other goods	Value —	1,815
			<hr/> £374,414

Country.				Article.			Quantity.		Value. £
Aden	...	...	...	Coffee	...	...	Cwt.	1,738	4,103
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	465
									£4,568
Ceylon	...	...	...	Cotton (raw)	...	...	Cental	410	£840
Hong-Kong	...	...	...	Ivory (elephant)	...	...	Cwt.	26	695
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	34
									£729
India	...	...	...	Cotton (raw)	...	...	Cental	686,008	1,374,422
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	1,810
									£1,376,232
Union of South Africa...				Coffee	...	...	Cwt.	128	306
				Groundnuts	...	...	Ton	41	402
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	50
									£758
Zanzibar	...	...	...	Coffee	...	...	Cwt.	1,318	3,135
				Ivory (elephant)	...	...	"	51	2,224
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	507
									£5,866
Canada	...	...	...	Coffee	...	...	Cwt.	390	829
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	10
									£839
Australia	...	...	...	Chillies	...	...	Cwt.	110	225
				Other goods	...	...	Value	—	6
									£231
New Zealand	...	...	...	Coffee	...	...	Cwt.	283	£668
Tanganyika Territory.	Mandated	Sugar	...	...	...	Cwt.	44,271	45,733	
		Cigarettes	...	...	...	lb.	46,154	12,325	
		Groundnuts	...	...	...	Ton	22	225	
		Other goods	...	...	...	Value	—	1,850	
									£60,133
Empire Total									£1,825,278
Empire percentage of total domestic exports									
of Uganda (£1,978,262)									92·27 per cent.

For more detailed information in regard to imports, exports, sources of supply, countries of destination, etc., reference is invited to the Annual Trade Report of Kenya and Uganda.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Natives.

The monthly average of persons in employment during 1931 was 410,720, the great majority being unskilled labourers. Of the total, agriculture absorbed about 93·5 per cent., industrial concerns about 2·2 per cent., Government and the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours about 2·5 per cent., the building trade about 0·7 per cent., and the remainder were in domestic service. The level of wages was generally lower than in 1930, the average rate being 11 shillings 25 cents a month. There was a decrease of about 3½ per cent. in the rates of wages of casual employees of Government and the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, and of 10 to 16 per cent. in agricultural and industrial wages. The wages of permanent employees of Government and the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours and of domestic servants remained generally at their previous level.

There was no change in the prices of native food-stuffs during 1931, as compared with 1930, but the cost of clothing fell by 17½ per cent., and the value of livestock, one of the principal forms of property, if not the most important, decreased by about one-third.

The staple article of diet among the Baganda is cooked plantains, a bunch of which costs, on the average, 50 cents, and this generally lasts for three days. The other tribes subsist principally on a diet of sweet potatoes (or plantains), millets (wimbi), or beans. The average price of sweet potatoes is 54 cents a basket (4-5 days' provision); wimbi costs about 9 cents a pound, and beans about 12 cents a pound, three pounds sufficing for two days. Other vegetables are added to each meal seasonally and according to taste, but meat is an item irregularly included in the diet. On the average, assuming that all articles were purchased, the wage figure of 11 shillings 25 cents would represent forty-five days' food supply for one labourer. It should be recognized, however, that figures vary greatly according to whether a large or small township or a rural district is under consideration. Except in the large trade centres it is very seldom, however, that any part of the monthly wage is expended on the staple articles of food, sundries only, such as salt, sugar, tea, and beer being purchased. Manual labour recruited from a distance receives an adequate daily ration as part of the conditions of service; and local employees almost invariably have plots on which all the principal food-stuffs are produced by their families, and frequently an economic crop also. Domestic servants are not supplied with rations under their terms of engagement, but their rate of wages is much higher than that applicable to manual labourers, the average being 22 shillings 50 cents a month.

Employees of Government and the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours work on an average 46 hours per week, agricultural labourers 44 hours per week, and industrial labourers 48 hours per week. All these figures are exclusive of overtime. It is worthy of note that the daily tasks performed by each man do not approximate to what, under European conditions, would be "hard work."

Non-Natives.

The salaries paid to Europeans employed in commercial concerns and on plantations vary, generally speaking, between £240 and £750 per annum, in accordance with the nature of the work, the length of service, or the responsibility involved. Free housing or an allowance in lieu is in most cases provided and also free medical treatment, and in some cases dental treatment also.

Local conditions demand that Europeans shall maintain a comparatively high standard of living. The cost of residence at a hotel—making provision for board, lodging, and essential service only—is about £19 per mensem for each person, and this figure may be accepted as indicative of the individual's basic domestic expenses. It is impracticable to generalize further in regard to the cost of living, since this varies very appreciably in the different stations and districts of the Protectorate. Imported articles of every-day consumption are naturally, however, considerably more expensive than in England, and there was no decrease in the prices of food, imported or local, during the year. The prices of clothing, generally speaking, fell about 18 per cent. Imported clothing remained at from 50 per cent. to 75 per cent. above London prices, while articles made locally from imported materials were sold at about the same figure as would have been asked in England.

Asiatics are mainly engaged in commerce, the majority being petty shop-keepers and shop assistants. There is no wage standard generally applicable, and their costs of living are low.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

European Education.—European residents in Uganda are encouraged to send their children to be educated in Kenya, and the only school for European children in Uganda is a small kindergarten school in Kampala, which some 20 children attend.

Indian Education.—The education of Indians is undertaken in schools owned by the Indian community and assisted by Government grants; it is supervised by an Indian Advisory Council presided over by the Director of Education. It is anticipated that the Indian schools in Kampala and Jinja will be taken over by Government in 1932.

Goan Education.—There are two grant-aided kindergarten schools, one in Entebbe, and one in Kampala. Older children are generally sent to India for their education.

African Education.—The course of education for boys advances through certain definite grades.

The system has its beginning in sub-grade schools, after which, in order, come elementary, lower middle, upper middle, and junior secondary schools and, finally, Makerere College, a Government institution, for a higher type of education which is mostly vocational.

In the elementary schools in all areas the medium of instruction in the two lower classes is the tribal vernacular. In the Nilotic districts Swahili is being introduced gradually as a medium of instruction in the last two years of the elementary course. In the Bantu districts (except in the province of Buganda, where Luganda is used throughout the elementary stage) Swahili is taught as a subject. English is the medium of instruction in all middle and junior secondary schools.

Elementary schools, giving a four years' course in the 3 R's, hygiene, agriculture, handwork, etc., are controlled and financed by the district boards, which represent all local interests, and are assisted by the Native Administration funds and, in some cases, by Government grants. Next is the middle and junior secondary stage of six years' duration, at the end of which pupils may take the leaving certificate examination which forms the entrance examination for Makerere College. The College provides vocational courses for medical, veterinary, survey, and agricultural probationers for the African Civil Service, and also for schoolmasters. It is hoped that a general arts course (3 years) up to matriculation standard will be started in the near future for students who require general higher education that is not necessarily vocational. It is thought that such a course will attract students from neighbouring territories.

There are also central schools to which those boys who are not likely to benefit by higher education are encouraged to go. These schools cover the elementary and lower middle syllabus in a vernacular medium and English is taught in the last two years as a subject.

In addition to these schools there are special schools, which include technical, agricultural, and normal schools.

Girls' education follows the same form as the boys' up to middle standard, and culminates in two mission-built colleges which will provide a finishing education adapted to local needs for daughters of the better classes. The curriculum includes handwork, needlework, child welfare, etc.

Expenditure on education in 1931 was £72,103; of this amount £31,876 was paid in grants to Missions.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no orphanages or similar philanthropic institutions in Uganda. The family tie is a very strong one amongst Africans, and such institutions are unnecessary. In rare cases, when there is no representative of the family or clan to look after orphans or the aged and infirm, they have been cared for by the Missions.

Welfare work is carried on by all the Mission Societies but there are no special institutions except the maternity centres, and training schools for midwives and nurses. Particulars in regard to these will be found in Chapter IV of this Report.

Recreations and Games.

Recreations, and games are controlled and encouraged by such bodies as the Native Athletic Association, and the Uganda Football Association. Games and athletics take a prominent place in the activities of all schools. Boy Scout and Girl Guide Associations have been formed and both these movements enjoy an ever-increasing popularity. There are 53 registered Scout Troops, 5 Girl Guide, and 2 Ranger Companies in the Protectorate.

Music, Art, and the Drama.

Singing is taught in most schools, and there are church choir schools in connexion with most of the churches in the larger centres. The Cathedral choir at Namirembe Church Missionary Society and the choirs at the Roman Catholic Seminaries are famous throughout the Protectorate.

Apart from the ordinary school lessons in drawing little attempt is made to give instruction in the graphic arts, and there is no society to encourage the development of local art. There has been little, if any, attempt to encourage the drama apart from dramatic performances at schools on occasions such as speech days and prize givings. The students at the Mill Hill Fathers' Seminary at Nyenga, however, have given representations of Shakespeare's plays with great success.

JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

	<i>Protestant.</i>	<i>Roman Catholic.</i>	<i>Govern-ment.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Schools	3	3	Nil.	6
No. of European Teachers ...	6	8	„	14
No. of Native Teachers ...	1	—	„	1
No. of Scholars (Boys) ...	103	117	„	220
No. of Scholars (Girls) ...	—	—	„	—

MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

No. of Schools	8	14	1	23
No. of European Teachers ...	6	19	1	26
No. of Native Teachers ...	30	32	2	64
No. of Scholars (Boys) ...	494	495	42	1,031
No. of Scholars (Girls) ...	54	126	—	180

NORMAL SCHOOLS FOR GRADE A AND B ELEMENTARY TEACHERS.

	<i>Protestant.</i>	<i>Roman Catholic.</i>	<i>Government.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Schools	3	8	1	12
No. of European Teachers ...	5	9	1	15
No. of Native Teachers ...	8	19	4	31
No. of Scholars (Men) ...	63	209	45	317
No. of Scholars (Women) ...	52	68	—	120

NORMAL SCHOOLS FOR GRADE C ELEMENTARY (SUB-GRADE) TEACHERS.

No. of Schools	13	12	Nil.	25
No. of European Teachers ...	5	10	„	15
No. of Native Teachers ...	22	26	„	48
No. of Scholars (Men) ...	367	464	„	831
No. of Scholars (Women) ...	105	—	„	105

ELEMENTARY AIDED SCHOOLS.

	<i>Pro- testant.</i>	<i>Roman Catholic.</i>	<i>Govern- ment.</i>	<i>Mohammedan and Non- Mission.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Schools	113	76	4	9	202
No. of European Teachers ...	9	49	1	—	59
No. of Native Teachers ...	349	258	15	23	645
No. of Adults	431	68	—	15	514
No. of Boys	4,187	6,470	235	232	11,124
No. of Girls	2,350	1,017	6	3	3,376

ELEMENTARY NON-AIDED (SUB-GRADE) SCHOOLS.

	<i>Protestant.</i>	<i>Roman Catholic.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Schools	2,968	2,375	5,343
No. of European Teachers ...	—	25	25
No. of Native Teachers ...	3,519	2,818	6,337
No. of Adults	7,994	1,881	9,875
No. of Boys	83,402	55,471	138,873
No. of Girls	61,215	36,977	98,192

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

	<i>Pro- testant.</i>	<i>Roman Catholic.</i>	<i>Private.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Schools	26	13	1	40
No. of European Teachers ...	15	39	—	54
No. of Native Teachers ...	59	16	5	80
No. of Adults	118	275	—	393
No. of Boys	660	130	83	873
No. of Girls	221	111	—	332

TECHNICAL TRAINING.

<i>Schools.</i>	<i>Number in Training.</i>
Protestant	47
Catholic	330
Government	151
Total	528

INDIAN SCHOOLS.

No. of Schools	17
No. of Boys	553
No. of Girls	323
No. of Teachers	47

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

At the end of 1931, there were 1,727 miles of main roads built and maintained by the Protectorate Administration. These are classified as follows :—

				<i>Gross load.</i>
1st Class	...	1,167 miles	...	For 4 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 7 tons. For 6 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 9 tons.
2nd Class	...	340 miles	...	For 4 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 5 tons. For 6 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 5 tons.
3rd Class	...	220 miles	...	For 4 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 2½ tons. For 6 wheeled vehicles on pneumatic tyres, 4½ tons.

The average cost of maintaining these roads was £20 a mile. In addition there were 5,260 miles of roads, built and maintained by the Native Administration, generally capable of carrying a gross load of 2½ tons on pneumatic tyres.

At Police headquarters in Kampala there has been set up a Central Registration Bureau in which are recorded particulars of all motor vehicles and motor drivers, and of all firearms registered in the Protectorate. There are also special sections dealing with the control of traffic, and inspection of public service vehicles.

During the year 3,578 motor vehicles in all were licensed for use, consisting of 1,342 motor cars, 1,209 commercial vehicles, 188 omnibuses, 20 trailers, and 819 motor cycles. The number of vehicles licensed in the names of Africans was 585. The number of licensed drivers was 4,087, 1,094 being Europeans, 1,075 Asiatics, and 1,918 natives.

Railways.

There are 329 miles of railways in Uganda, under the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration, affording direct communication between Mombasa, Soroti, Jinja, Kampala, Port Bell, and intermediate stations.

The main line enters the Protectorate at Tororo (886 miles from Mombasa) and proceeds by way of Mbulamuti to Jinja, and thence across the Nile Bridge to Kampala. From Tororo a branch line with a bi-weekly passenger service runs north-west to Soroti, serving Mbale en route, and taps the most productive area in the Protectorate. Another branch line connects the main line at Mbulamuti

with Namasagali, from which port the Lake Kioga flotilla is operated. A third branch line affords direct communication between Kampala, and Port Bell on Lake Victoria. The total traffic (inwards and outwards) at Kampala and Jinja during the last five years is shown in the following statement :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Kampala*	58,324	56,044	84,744	66,636	49,527
Jinja	—	21,953	28,599	24,076	19,661

The outwards traffic for the year 1931 at the principal stations, excluding the lake-ports, in Uganda, is reflected in the following return :—

	<i>Passengers.</i>	<i>Parcels and Luggage.</i>	<i>Live-stock.</i>	<i>General Merchandise and Railway Material.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Kampala	11,696 8	1,972 7	7 19	60,045 5	73,721 19
Jinja	3,972 18	593 5	10 2	10,834 1	15,410 6
Soroti	1,345 14	275 5	163 2	18,088 15	19,872 16
Mbale	795 12	172 19	12 10	14,451 14	15,432 15
Kumi	271 7	40 9	1 12	16,402 14	16,716 2
Nainze	726 7	41 14	6	14,752 1	15,520 8

Water Transport.

A steamer service on Lakes Victoria, Kioga, and Albert, is maintained by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration. On Lake Victoria steamers call at regular intervals at Jinja, Port Bell, Entebbe, Bukakata, and Kagera Port, from which last named port, an auxiliary service is available to Kabuera on the Kagera River.

The value of the outwards traffic for the year at the principal ports was as follows : Port Bell, £1,403 16s. ; Entebbe, £3,019 10s. ; Bukakata, £12,339 19s.

Steamers on Lake Kioga leave Namasagali, and call at Bugondo, Lali, Sangai, Kelle, Kachung, Atura, and Masindi Port, whence a motor transport service, also maintained by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration, affords a connexion with Butiaba on Lake Albert. From Butiaba there is a steamer service to Kasenyi, and Mahagi, in the Belgian Congo, and Packwach, thence by transhipment to Rhino Camp and Nimule. From the last mentioned port there is a road to Juba in the Sudan, which is in direct communication with Khartoum.

* The main line to Kampala was only opened at the beginning of 1931.

The following table is a comparison of traffic (outward and inward) at ports on Lakes Victoria, Kioga, and Albert, during the last five years :—

		1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Lake Victoria—						
Sese Island ports	...	156	275	216	163	388
Other ports	... ..	35,725	47,403	76,482	81,515	14,975
Lake Kioga—						
Namasagali	... ..	25,043	35,299	37,223	26,596	32,362
Other ports	... ..	1,337	1,080	2,489	1,096	1,824
Lake Albert—						
Butiaba	... ..	4,799	6,931	7,880	10,109	11,017
Other ports	... ..	—	—	—	—	—

The decrease in traffic on Lake Victoria is due to the opening of the Kampala Railway extension.

Omnibuses.

There are no tramways in the Protectorate, but it is possible to travel by motor omnibus from Kampala, the commercial centre, to most of the principal towns in the country. These motor omnibuses are entirely owned by Asiatics, and natives, and exist primarily for their convenience. Rates are very low, the average charge being only 5 cents a mile.

During the year a total of 188 omnibuses were registered, of which 9 were owned by natives ; 41 of these registrations were in respect of vehicles licensed for the first time.

Posts.

The outstanding event of the year under this head was the inauguration, in the early part of the year, of a regular weekly air mail service with Great Britain on the opening of the North African Section of the London-Cairo-Capetown Imperial Airways air route. This service is of particular value to the Protectorate in that, in the first place, it has the great advantage of regularity in contrast with the irregular steamer services which serve the East Coast ; and secondly because of the great saving in time—some 14 days—which it effects on correspondence with Great Britain and Europe, the principal countries with which the Protectorate has business and other relations. The service has been popular from its commencement and is steadily gaining in favour. It is estimated that 12½ per cent. of the total number of letters and postcards despatched to Great Britain and Europe are now sent by air. Owing to various causes delays, during the first few months, were somewhat frequent, but since then the service has been maintained with satisfactory regularity. The southern section of the route had not been opened by the end of the year, but this has since taken place.

The ordinary overseas mail services were reasonably frequent throughout the year. English mail despatches averaged 1·25 per week and arrivals 1·4. The average time in transit each way was 21 days.

The internal mail services extend to all parts of the Protectorate and motor transport has replaced runner services except in the case of the more remote districts, where it is not available.

The estimated total number of letters, postcards, parcels, newspapers and other packets dealt with in the Protectorate during the year was 2,432,930, representing a decrease of 8·6 per cent. on the figure of the previous year. The number of cash-on-delivery parcels dealt with during 1931 was 6,005, having a value of £15,235, as compared with 9,862, having a value of £29,405, in 1930.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The external systems of telegraph communication, which consist of the cable system of Imperial and International Communications, Limited, the Kenyaradio short-wave service with Great Britain, also under the control of the above mentioned Company, and the land-line service to South Africa, were satisfactorily maintained during the year. There is also a telegraph line which connects the Protectorate's telegraph system with Irumu in the Belgian Congo and thence by Congo wireless services with the Congo system generally.

Cable communication with Europe was interrupted for 25 days in August and September owing to a breakdown on the Zanzibar-Aden cable, but no public inconvenience was caused as traffic was diverted via Kenyaradio.

The internal telegraph and telephone system consists of 1,647 miles of pole route and a wire mileage of 3,495. Over 66 miles of route on the Masaka-Mharara section, iron poles were substituted for the old wooden poles; and the construction of the new telegraph and telephone route between Kampala and Jinja along the railway, which was begun in 1930, was completed in May. All administrative centres, with the exception of a few outlying stations in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, are connected by telegraph. There are public telephone exchanges, connected by trunk lines, at Kampala, Entebbe, Jinja, Mbale, and Iganga.

The extension of the telephone service during the past five years is illustrated in the table below. The figures given include exchange lines, internal and external extensions and private wires.

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Telephones in use ...	505	612	711	777	802

The long- and short-wave wireless station on Kololo Hill (near Kampala) referred to in last year's Report was completed in September and is operating very satisfactorily. Though primarily provided for air service purposes, the station can, if desired, be utilized for internal wireless services and general communication with the Sudan and the Belgian Congo. It also affords an inter-state wireless link with Kenya and Tanganyika.

Air Transport.

The weekly mail service operated by Imperial Airways to which reference has already been made is also available for the conveyance of passengers and freight. Port Bell on Lake Victoria was made a regular port of call on the main line route, and Butiaba on Lake Albert a secondary stopping-place for use when required.

CHAPTER XI.**BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.****Banks.**

Banking facilities are afforded by the National Bank of India, Limited, with branches at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja, the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, with branches at Kampala and Jinja, and by Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas), with branches at Kampala and Jinja. There is also a Post Office Savings Bank. There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks in the Protectorate.

A Savings Bank was established on 1st October, 1907, under the control of the Treasury, but was transferred to the Post Office on 1st July, 1926. The numbers of European, Asiatic, and native depositors at the end of 1931 were 116, 758, and 2,026, respectively, the total of depositors having increased during the year from 2,341 to 2,900. The value of the deposits made in the same period showed a slight increase, being £30,637 in 1931 as compared with £30,379 in 1930. A further sum of £2,000 was added to the invested funds of the Savings Bank.

With a view to increasing the facilities offered by the Bank, home safes of the type used in the Post Office Savings Bank of the United Kingdom were introduced during the year; 160 of these receptacles were issued to depositors.

Currency.

Prior to 1920, rupee currency was in circulation in Uganda, but in that year florin currency was substituted, and in its turn, in 1922, displaced by the shilling currency which is now in use. The florin currency and notes were demonetized at the end of 1931. The following coins and notes of the shilling currency are in circulation :—

Coin :—

Sh.1, which is legal tender for an unlimited amount.

50 cents (= 6d.), which is legal tender for any amount up to 20s.

10 cents = $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. }

5 cents = $\frac{3}{4}$ d. }

1 cent = $\frac{3}{8}$ d. }

which are legal tender up to 1s.

Notes :—

Shs.10,000; 1,000; 200; 100; 20; 10; 5.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standards of weights and measures have been adopted and copies of these standards verified by the Board of Trade in England are maintained as the Protectorate standards, the wardens of the standards being the Chief Secretary and the Treasurer. The Commissioner of Police is *ex officio* Inspector of Weights and Measures, all other European Police Officers acting as Deputies.

The sections of the Weights and Measures Ordinance prohibiting use of weights and measures other than standard or of unstamped weights and measures have not as yet been declared applicable. The verification and stamping of weights and measures presented for the purpose is undertaken by the Police who hold the secondary standards. Inspections for justness are made from time to time in all cotton-buying posts and important trading centres.

CHAPTER XII.**PUBLIC WORKS.**

The expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department in 1931 amounted to £332,595, as compared with £563,456 in 1930. Details of this expenditure are as under :—

MAIN SECTION.

	£	£
Public Works Department—		
Personal emoluments	58,849	
Special temporary staff	3,016	
Other charges	13,406	
Annually recurrent	49,630	
Extraordinary	42,726	
	<hr/>	167,627

OTHER SECTIONS.

Government timber supply	2,396	
Jinja water-supply	2,838	
Kampala water-supply	6,939	
Transport Section	29,562	
	<hr/>	41,735

LOAN WORKS.

Kampala water-supply construction	5,334	
Western Province road construction	70,629	
H.T.I. Central Research Institute	15,560	
Water-drilling scheme	4,159	
Development Loan	830	
	<hr/>	96,512

MISCELLANEOUS.

Works for other Departments	8,907	
Works for Native Government... ..	16,961	
Works for private individuals	853	
	<hr/>	26,721
		<hr/>
		£332,595
		<hr/>

Major works which were financed from the funds voted in respect of Public Works Extraordinary included the completion of an Asiatic Hospital in Kampala at a final cost of £7,446, and an out-patient department at Mulago Native Hospital at a final cost of £4,267. The Kampala water-supply, expenditure on which was charged to Loan funds, was also completed, but until certain accounts outstanding with the contractors of the pumping plant have been settled, a statement of the final cost of this project is not available.

In accordance with the Western Province road programme, the construction of 50 miles of road between Mbarara and Fort Portal was undertaken.

By the end of the year, this important link was ready for use as soon as the bridges over the Mubuku and Rakoki Rivers, which were still under construction, should be finished. Expenditure was £70,629, of which personal emoluments amounted to £3,651, other charges £34,132, including a sum of £26,093 for transport charges for 1929, 1930, 1931, and works £32,846.

Work on the branch road to Katwe Salt Lake was commenced, and preliminary surveys of the Katwe-Kasinde and Kabale-Rutchuru roads were made. The two roads last mentioned will, when made, form links with the road systems in Belgian territories on the west and south-west of Uganda respectively.

The Human Trypanosomiasis Institute was completed, so as to meet the requirements of the curtailed staff, at a cost of £17,976, and the Meteorological and Wireless Station on Kololo Hill was completed at a cost of £12,161.

The headquarters of the Public Works Department are in Entebbe, and divisional stations are established at Kampala, Jinja, and Mbarara. In addition to its responsibility for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings, the Department also administers the Kampala and Jinja water-supplies, the Government Timber Supply, a Drilling Section, and a Mechanical Transport Section, formerly administered as a separate Department, under the title of the Uganda Transport Department.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

HIGH COURT.

The High Court of Uganda was established by the Uganda Order in Council of 11th August, 1902. There are two Judges, a Chief Justice and a Puisne Judge. Ordinarily the High Court sits at Kampala, but it may sit at any place within the Protectorate when for any reason it considers it necessary to do so.

The High Court has full jurisdiction in Civil and Criminal matters ; it is a Court of Admiralty with power to exercise Admiralty jurisdiction in matters arising upon any of the Lakes ; it has jurisdiction in divorce. When a sentence of death has been passed by the High Court a copy of the record is sent to the Governor in Council and the sentence is not carried out unless it has been confirmed by the Governor.

The constitution of the High Court and the powers of the Registrar and District Registrars are laid down in the Courts Ordinance and the Civil Procedure Rules. The Courts Ordinance confers upon the High Court the power to exercise general supervision over all Courts subordinate to itself, to inspect their records, and to give advice and instruction as may be necessary. An appeal lies from the judgments and orders of the High Court to the Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa. The Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa holds four ordinary sessions in each year, the sessions being held at Nairobi, Kampala, Mombasa, Dar-es-Salaam, and Zanzibar in turn.

BRITISH COURTS.

The Governor is authorized to confer special power upon Magistrates in special Districts to try natives for the offences of murder, manslaughter, rape, and certain other offences. Special District Courts try such offences with the aid of assessors and trials are conducted in the manner prescribed for the trial of offences before the High Court.

There are District and Additional District (Subordinate) Courts throughout the Protectorate whose powers vary according to the powers of the Magistrate presiding over them. In criminal matters Subordinate Courts of the first, second, and third class may, when the accused is a non-native, pass the following sentences, namely :—

Subordinate Courts of the first class.	{	Imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.
		Fine not exceeding £300.
		Corporal punishment.
Subordinate Courts of the second class.	{	Imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.
		Fine not exceeding £75.
		Corporal punishment.
Subordinate Courts of the third class.	{	Imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month.
		Fine not exceeding £15.

Subordinate Courts of the first, second, and third class have extended jurisdiction over natives, that is, over any native of Africa not of European or Asiatic extraction, the term " native " for this purpose including Arabs and Somalis, and any Baluchi born in Africa.

Although Subordinate Courts possess extended jurisdiction over natives they may not try natives accused of treason, instigating invasion, concealment of treason, murder, manslaughter, rape, or attempts to commit or abet the commission of these offences.

No sentence imposed on a native by any Subordinate Court exceeding six months' imprisonment or twelve strokes can be carried into effect, and no fine exceeding £50 can be levied, until the record has been transmitted to the High Court and the sentence has been confirmed by the High Court.

The probationary system, as understood in England, is not applicable to the Protectorate, as the machinery necessary for its general adoption and satisfactory working does not exist in Uganda. Under section 295 of the Criminal Procedure Code the Court may, if the circumstances appear to warrant such a course, release a person convicted of an offence punishable with not more than three years' imprisonment, against whom no previous conviction is proved, on his entering into a bond to appear and receive sentence if required, and in the meantime to keep the peace and be of good behaviour. The only practical use to which this section can be put is where the convicted person is a juvenile and the Court can rely upon his parent or parents to exercise supervision over a youthful offender.

NATIVE COURTS.

Native Courts exist in every District. Certain classes of cases are excepted from their jurisdiction: cases in which a person is charged with an offence in consequence of which death has resulted, offences committed by natives in any place declared to be a township, civil and criminal cases in which any of the parties are regularly employed in Government Service, offences which are punishable as breaches of any special law, e.g., arms, forest, fiscal, mining, etc.

The powers of the different classes of Native Courts are limited by various enactments. For instance, the powers accorded to a District Native Court may enable it to award imprisonment for two years and fine of Shs. 1,000 and 24 strokes of the cane. In civil cases the limits of jurisdiction of a District Native Court are any number of cattle with Shs. 1,000. There is an appeal from all decisions of a District Native Court to a District Court. There is an appeal thence to the High Court.

In the Buganda Province of the Protectorate the Court of the Lukiko at Mengo has full jurisdiction in all cases in which all parties are natives of the Protectorate, except in cases in which a person is charged with an offence in consequence of which death had resulted, and breaches of special laws such as arms, forest, and fiscal are withdrawn.

There is an appeal to the High Court from the Court of the Lukiko in criminal matters where a sentence of imprisonment exceeding five years, or of fine exceeding £100, or of whipping over

24 strokes, has been passed, and in civil matters in cases where the amount or value of the subject matter of the suit exceeds £100. The Provincial Commissioner, Buganda, is empowered to revise all the proceedings of the Court of the Lukiko. The High Court may exercise any of the powers vested in the Provincial Commissioner. There is an appeal to the High Court in any original case, civil or criminal, tried before the Court of the Lukiko in which the accused, the complainant, or any of the parties are not natives of Buganda.

There were 727 Native Courts in the Protectorate during 1931. These Courts were supervised by Administrative Officers as in previous years. According to the returns received by the High Court, 86,728 cases were tried by Native Courts, the judgments in 702 of which were reversed or varied on revision or appeal.

The following table gives particulars of the criminal and civil jurisdiction of British Courts for the last five years :—

CRIMINAL.

Year.	<i>Discharged for want of evidence.</i>	<i>Convicted.</i>	<i>Acquitted.</i>	<i>Found Insane.</i>	<i>Total number of persons.</i>	<i>Total number of cases.</i>
1926 ...	374	5,932	388	3	6,697	5,141
1927 ...	420	6,648	695	3	7,766	6,293
1928 ...	479	7,155	513	3	8,152	6,626
1929 ...	614	8,649	459	2	9,724	7,833
1930 ...	585	7,544	565	1	8,695	6,795
1931 ...	225	7,036	1,047	3	8,311	6,712*

CIVIL.

Year.	<i>Amounts of £15 and under.</i>	<i>Amounts above £15 to £50.</i>	<i>Amounts above £50 to £150.</i>	<i>Amounts above £150.</i>	<i>Value not stated.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1926 ...	1,271	836	342	105	17	2,571
1927 ...	1,676	1,039	498	104	28	3,345
1928 ...	1,718	749	276	70	14	2,827
1929 ...	1,668	677	272	75	16	2,708
1930 ...	1,891	866	318	88	21	3,184
1931 ...	1,971	306	306	83	21	3,300†

The cases dealt with by the High Court on appeal, etc., compared with the last five years are shown below :—

	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Criminal appeals ...	36	46	48	82	103	77
Civil appeals ...	17	17	18	12	18	22
Criminal revisions ...	47	50	71	38	81	102
Civil revisions ...	4	1	3	—	7	1
Confirmation of death sentences...	3	9	2	6	7	17
Confirmation of sentence ...	—	—	—	—	—	283
Miscellaneous appeals ...	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	107	123	142	138	216	505

* Includes 89 cases tried by the High Court in its original criminal jurisdiction.

† Includes 342 cases tried by the High Court in its original civil jurisdiction.

Police.

A Protectorate Police Force is maintained, constituted under the Police Ordinance which decrees that it "shall act as a Police in and throughout the Protectorate for preserving the peace and preventing crime, and apprehending offenders against the peace, and as a military force when called upon to discharge military duties."

This Force has a personnel consisting of 31 European Officers and Inspectors, 8 Asiatic Sub-Inspectors, and 1,294 enlisted African rank and file, under the command of a Commissioner. The European Officers and Inspectors are normally recruited in the United Kingdom, all other ranks being appointed locally by the Commissioner. The normal period of engagement for Asiatic and African ranks is three years extended by like periods to complete 12 years, and thereafter by any period or periods to 21 years' service.

A division of the Force is assigned to each of the 18 Magisterial districts into which the Protectorate is divided. Of these divisions eight are commanded by a Superintendent or an Assistant Superintendent of Police, aided in the more important by one or more subordinate European officers; the remaining divisions being under the control of the Civil District Officer.

A Criminal Investigation Department is maintained, attached to which is a Finger Print Bureau carrying at present over 45,488 finger print files. This department also controls the supervision of habitual criminals, and undertakes certain duties in connexion with immigration and the inspection of weights and measures.

There is a training school for Police in Kampala for the instruction of recruits in police duties generally, including the use of arms, first-aid, traffic control, and local languages. The normal period of instruction is six months. Refresher and promotional courses are also held here, and there is an elementary vernacular school for the children of policemen and prison warders.

At the Central Registration Bureau firearms to the number of 2,929 were registered, consisting of 1,127 rifles, 1,308 shot guns, 396 pistols and revolvers, 92 muzzle loaders, and 6 miscellaneous guns.

The number of crimes and other offences dealt with by the Protectorate Police during the year was 7,222.

Police are also maintained by the various Native Administrations, and serve as warders in the Native Administration prisons in addition to performing ordinary police duties. The standard of discipline and efficiency required in the Uganda Police is not expected of, or attained by, these forces. There is nevertheless a gradual improvement in this respect.

Prisons.

There is a central prison now in course of erection near Port Bell, 7 miles from Kampala, which, once completed, will provide accommodation for about 1,000 prisoners. The main section is constructed for long-term native convicts, and there are separate sections for the segregation of juveniles, females, Asiatics, and Europeans, as well as punishment cells, condemned cells, workshops, a hospital, and general offices. A large proportion of the accommodation is in the nature of single cells. An accommodation standard of 40 square feet has been adopted in this prison.

There are also 16 district jails for the accommodation of short-term prisoners and local remands, and debtors. Few of these are permanent buildings. The standard accommodation in these jails is 28 square feet per prisoner.

There is a European staff of one Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent and three Head Gaolers, mainly recruited from the Home Prison Service. These are allocated to the Central Prison. The district jails are administered by the local Superintendent of Police or, where there is no such local officer, by an officer of the Provincial Administration.

The subordinate staff is composed of Africans, all of whom undergo a course of training before allocation for duty to the several prisons.

There is as yet no reformatory for juveniles but accommodation of a temporary nature has been provided at Port Bell, well separated from the main prison buildings, for the treatment of youthful delinquents. There they are taught husbandry and carpentry, and an attempt is made to improve their education as well as their physical and moral character. Convicted criminal prisoners are employed generally upon the production of prison food crops, the cutting of fuel for public institutions, the maintenance of prisons', police, and warders' lines, the cleaning of public grounds, and such other municipal and sanitary work as can usefully be undertaken by prison labour. At the Central Prison, tailoring, carpentry, mat and basket work, etc., are taught, and in the workshops the uniforms required for the native personnel of the Police Force, the prisons, and the various Government Departments are manufactured, as well as furniture and other articles required by Government.

The number of persons admitted to prison during the year was 7,252; the daily average in prison being 2,074·31. The number of persons executed on the capital charge was 21.

The general health of the prisoners has been satisfactory. The total deaths during the year being 37 or 1·52 per hundred of the daily average population of 2,074·31 prisoners, the main causes being pneumonia, dysentery, and phthisis.

Prisons under the control of the Native Government of Buganda have existed for many years. A central prison is situated at Mengo, and short-term prisoners sentenced by Native Courts are imprisoned

at the headquarters of the County Chiefs and subordinate (Gombolola) Chiefs. In the Toro and Ankole Districts of the Western Province, also, central prisons have long existed for the confinement of prisoners sentenced by Native Courts. The offences for which a large proportion of the prisoners are sentenced by Native Courts throughout the Protectorate cannot properly be classed as criminal, consisting as they do of such misdemeanours as failing to obey the lawful order of a Chief or failing to pay the compensation recognised by native custom for illicit intercourse with women ; many, again, are sentenced for petty assaults and similar minor offences. The admission of offenders of this class to the Protectorate prisons caused a very heavy and quite unnecessary addition to the expenditure of Protectorate revenues, and was open to grave objection in that it meant that unsophisticated natives of a non-criminal type were inevitably brought into close association with a definitely criminal class. During the year 1929, therefore, steps were taken to extend the system of Native Administration prisons to Provinces and Districts in which they had not previously existed.

Payment of Fines.

It is provided by section 288 (3) of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1930, that, at the discretion of the Court, it may be ordered that fines shall be paid by instalments at such times and in such amounts as the Court may deem fit.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Ordinances.

The following are the more important Ordinances enacted in 1931 :—

The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, increases the Customs duties on wines, spirits, motor vehicles, and certain other articles.

The Drugs and Poisons Ordinance, 1931, is a comprehensive enactment replacing the Poisons Regulations, 1902. The Ordinance prohibits the compounding and dispensing of drugs by unqualified persons, and lays down provisions in regard to the sale of poisons.

The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, 1931, declares the terms and conditions applicable to any loans authorized to be raised by the Uganda Government.

The Trustee Investment in Uganda Government Securities Ordinance, 1931, enables Uganda Government Loans to be treated in the United Kingdom as trustee securities.

The Customs Tariff (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1931, increases the Customs duties on beer, tea, lubricating oils, and certain other articles.

The Excise Duties Ordinance, 1931, imposes Excise duties on sugar, tea, cigarettes, and tobacco manufactured in Uganda.

The Customs Management (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, enables regulations to be made by the Governor in Council for the establishment of a "triptyque" system for motor vehicles used for touring in or visiting Uganda for a limited period.

The Excise Duties Agreements Ordinance, 1931, empowers the Governor in Council to enter into agreements with other British East African territories to ensure uniformity in the imposition of Excise duties, and provides that Excise duties shall be allocated in the same manner as Customs duties.

The Levy on Official Salaries Ordinance, 1931, empowers the Governor in Council to impose a levy not exceeding 10 per cent. on the salary of every officer in the public service.

The Cotton Export Duty Ordinance, 1931, imposes an export duty on cotton. Such duty is based on a sliding scale and the duty becomes payable only when the price of American "middling" exceeds 5d. per lb.

The Cotton (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931. This Ordinance (a) enables cotton seed to be requisitioned and made available for distribution from any ginnery; (b) enables a holder of current cotton buying licence to complete contracts for the sale and ginning of raw cotton after the close of the cotton buying season; (c) compels cotton buyers to display legible price cards; (d) controls the production of the seed supply of new strains of cotton; (e) empowers the Governor to remit certain licence fees.

The Employment of Women Ordinance, 1931, prohibits, in accordance with the requirements of a Convention which was adopted in 1919, the employment of women during the night in industrial undertakings.

The Native Authority (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, repeals certain provisions of the principal Ordinance which were contrary to Article 11 of the 1930 Convention on Forced and Compulsory Labour.

The Collective Punishment (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, repeals certain provisions of the principal Ordinance which were contrary to Article 20 of the 1930 Convention on Forced and Compulsory Labour.

Reformatory Schools (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, repeals provisions in the principal Ordinance which were regarded as being contrary to the 1930 Convention on Forced and Compulsory Labour.

The Levy on Salaries (Transport Services) Ordinance, 1931, empowers the Governor in Council, at the request of the High Commissioner for Transport, to impose a levy on the salaries of officers in the service of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours.

Industrial Legislation.

The following legislation in regard to employment in industrial undertakings, compensation for accidents, and provision for sickness is in force :—

(i) The Factories Ordinance and the Factories Rules provide for the proper control and inspection of factory sites and plant and for the safety of employees.

(ii) The Employment of Children Ordinance, 1930, and the Employment of Children Rules, 1931, prohibit the employment of children under twelve years of age in factories or workshops, and prescribe conditions for the employment of children between twelve and fourteen. The Employment of Women Ordinance, 1931, prohibits the employment of women during the night in industrial undertakings.

(iii) The Mining Ordinance provides for the payment of compensation to employees injured in mining operations, and the Master and Servants Ordinance requires employers to provide proper housing and medical attention for their employees.

Subsidiary Legislation.

The Customs Management Regulations, 1931, provide that petrol and lubricating oil required for aircraft clearing for a foreign port may be obtained without payment of duty.

The Air Navigation Directions, 1931, add Entebbe to the list of Customs aerodromes.

The Employment of Children Rules, 1931, restrict the hours of employment of children in factories and workshops, and generally lay down conditions in regard to their employment in cotton ginneries.

The Telegraph (No. 3) Rules, 1931, prescribe telegraph rates between the Protectorate and all countries.

The Cattle Traders (Amendment) Rules, 1931, increase the fee for a cattle trader's licence from 5s. to £1.

Rules of Court No. 3 of 1931—Courts Vacations Rules, 1931,—prescribe the vacations of the High Court.

The Excise Duties Rules, 1931, prescribe conditions in connexion with the licensing of premises for the manufacture of excisable articles.

The Arms and Ammunition (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 1931, vary the fees payable for arms licences.

The Motor Vehicles (Temporary Importation) Regulations, 1931, prescribe conditions regarding the free importation of motor vehicles by persons making a temporary visit to the Protectorate.

Native Laws.

Laws enacted by the Kabaka of Buganda during the year 1931 are as follows :—

The Luwalo (Amendment) Law, 1931, (a) imposes upon all natives, other than Baganda, who may be resident in Buganda, similar obligations in regard to Luwalo as are borne by the Baganda themselves, and (b) abolishes remaining restrictions upon the right of monetary commutation in lieu of the performance of Luwalo.

The Baganda Township Sanitary Law, 1931, embodies a code of hygiene rules for application by the Buganda Native Government to native property situated, and natives residing, in the vicinity of, but beyond the Kampala Township boundary.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Protectorate accounts showed a surplus balance amounting to £636,295 at the end of 1931, and this, together with the Reserve Fund of £400,000, provided a total available surplus of £1,036,295. The Estimates for the year provided for an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to £200,906, but the financial outlook was changed by a fall in the price of cotton, and it became evident early in the year that expenditure could not proceed on the basis of the Estimates. Measures of economy were adopted, and the programme of public works was revised, and the result of the year's working was a deficit of only £51,651.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure figures of the last five years :—

Year.				Revenue. £	Expenditure. £	Surplus Balance. £
1927	...	...	...	1,292,306	1,430,976	1,089,204
1928	...	...	...	1,519,237	1,368,188	1,240,253
1929	...	...	...	1,682,918	1,607,175	1,315,997
1930	...	...	...	1,412,242	1,643,293*	1,087,946
1931	...	...	...	1,399,912	1,451,563	1,036,295

* Excludes the £400,000 transferred to Reserve Fund.

The estimated revenue for the year was £1,433,174, and the actual receipts amounted to £1,399,913; there was thus a shortage of £33,261. The heads under which the principal decreases occurred were :—

	£
Customs	67,153
Licences, Excise, etc. ...	123,080

Against these there were increases under certain other heads, the greatest being :—

	£
Reimbursements ...	147,262

This large increase under reimbursements was due to the transfer of certain expenditure from Revenue account to Loan account, and the real result of the year's working, in so far as recurrent revenue is concerned, was a much more substantial shortage. About one-third of this was accounted for by the absence of a cotton tax, and the balance was, generally speaking, occasioned by the low price of cotton and the world depression.

The amount appropriated for the service of the year was £1,634,080, and the actual expenditure amounted to £1,451,564. There was thus a saving on the expenditure estimates of £182,516.

A certain amount of expenditure for which provision had been made in the Estimates was eventually charged to loan account, but on the other hand the general account had to bear a wholly unprecedented charge of £71,000 in connexion with the depreciation of securities, and the net saving may be attributed largely to the early adoption of measures of economy, and a policy of drastic restriction in regard to capital works.

Debt.

The following table shows the position in regard to Loans and Public Debt at the end of 1931.

<i>Designation and amount of Loan.</i>	<i>Amount received.</i>	<i>Sinking Fund repaid and interest thereon.</i>	<i>Balance outstanding on 31st December, 1931..</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Busega Railway Construction ...	170,000	44,807 4 2	125,192 15 10	Interest at 3½ per cent. and Sinking Fund at 1 per cent.
Kampala-Port Bell Railway and improvements in communications in the Eastern Province.	125,000	39,320 13 9	85,679 6 3	Interest at 3½ per cent. and Sinking Fund at 1½ per cent.
Imperial Loan Ordinance 1915 (Railway and Road Development).	329,000	23,936 7 8	305,063 12 4	Loan received in instalments on various dates. Repayment by means of annuities of interest and Sinking Fund.
Development Loan for general services	550,000	—	550,000 0 0	To be repaid to the Imperial Treasury by the Uganda Government raising a loan. A Sinking Fund of 1 per cent. per annum has been formed and invested by Crown Agents.
Total £	1,174,000	108,064 5 7	1,065,935 14 5	

A 2

Note.—£368,851 of the Public Debt was expended on Railway and Marine Services, the interest and sinking fund charges on which are refunded to the Uganda Government by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration.

The following expenditure had been incurred at the end of the year in anticipation of the floating of a public loan :—

	£
Jinja-Kampala railway	507,873
Kampala water-supply	109,668
Western Province roads	174,426
Drilling and water-supply schemes	13,133
Kampala industrial fuel supply	2,132
Substitution of iron for wooden telegraph poles	884
Human Trypanosomiasis Central Research Institute	17,976
	<hr/>
	£826,092

Assets.

The Protectorate surplus amounted at the close of the year to £1,036,295. Of this sum £715,565 was invested (£400,000 being earmarked as a Reserve Fund), £49,337 was held in cash, and £83,034 as stores. The balance is represented by the excess of recoverable cash advances and the expenditure charged to an advance account in anticipation of the raising of a loan over cash liabilities in the shape of deposits and temporary borrowings.

The main heads of taxation and their yield.

The main sources of revenue from taxation, and the yield of each, were :—

	£
(a) Customs duties	304,128
(b) Licences to purchase store gin, and bale cotton	14,661
(c) Motor and carriage Licences	21,633
(d) Stamp duties	10,555
(e) Trading licences	16,028
(f) Poll taxes—native	516,802
(g) Poll taxes—non-native	14,740

There is also a tax on the export of cotton and this is calculated on a sliding scale according to the closing price on the Liverpool Cotton Exchange for June American “middling” futures on a certain date in the middle of December of the previous year. This price was below 6d. in December, 1930, and, in accordance with the scale, no tax was payable on cotton exported during 1931.

(a) *Customs Duties.*—Revenue is derived chiefly from import duties on spirits, tobacco, cotton yarns and manufactures, and oils, fats, and resin manufactures. (See also Section E, below).

(b) *Licences to purchase, store, gin and bale cotton.*—Ginning licences are issued at a fee of £50 in the Eastern and Buganda Provinces, and £25 in the Northern and Western Provinces. These licences include the right to purchase, store, and bale cotton, but a fee of £50 is charged for this privilege to any non-holder of a ginning licence.

(c) *Motor and Carriage Licences.*—The basis of taxation is tare-weight, and the fees vary from £2 to £15 for a motor car, and from £8 to £40 for a commercial vehicle. An additional fee is charged for public service vehicles and for trailers.

(d) *Stamp Duties.*—These are payable on various documents, etc., under the terms of an Ordinance enacted in 1915. (See also Section F below).

(e) *Trading Licences.*—A licence to cover wholesale and retail trading costs £15, and for retail trading only £7 10s. 0d. Licences for each additional trading store cost £5 and £3 15s. 0d. respectively. £2 8s. 0d. is charged for a hawker's licence.

(f) and (g).—These are dealt with separately in Section G of this Chapter.

Other important sources of revenue, which do not strictly come under the heading of taxation, and the yield from each, are as under :—

	£
Forestry fees	10,667
Inoculation of cattle	18,933
Registration of bicycles	13,633
Land rents	25,017
Sale of ivory	15,267

Customs Tariffs.

Under the terms of the Congo Basin Treaties equality of treatment in respect of imported goods irrespective of origin is ensured, and the grant of Imperial Preference is therefore inadmissible. Goods declared as in transit are allowed to be imported and forwarded under Customs control on payment of expenses of administration (6d. per package).

For purposes of Customs, Kenya and Uganda form a single unit and by agreement with the Tanganyika Territory Government a Common Tariff has been accepted by the three territories, the free and unrestricted movement within the territories of both imported goods and local products being thus secured. The Common Tariff, however, includes a small number of "suspended duties" which are of a protective nature and may be imposed by Proclamation either in part or in full in any or all of the territories.

The general duty rating under the Common Tariff is 20 per cent. *ad valorem* based on the landed value at the port of entry, building materials, artisans' tools, and vehicles and parts being admitted at lower ratings. Exemption from duty is allowed on drugs and medicines, packing materials, disinfectants, germicides and vermin killers, machinery, and many articles necessary for road construction, sanitation, irrigation, and drainage purposes, and for the agricultural, industrial, and educational development of the territories.

Amendments to the Customs Tariff in 1931 included increases in the rates of duty imposed on imported vehicles and parts, wines and spirits, tea, ale and beer, sports requisites, and lubricating oils and greases. In December of the year under review Excise duties were imposed on sugar, tea, and tobacco, the Excise Duties Agreements Ordinance enacted at the same time providing for allocation of such duties to the consuming territory on lines similar to those followed with regard to the allocation of the Customs revenues between Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory.

The Customs revenue accruing to the Protectorate in 1931 amounted to £303,430.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

(i) *Excise Duties*.—An Excise Duties Ordinance was enacted in December, 1931, to come into operation on 1st January, 1932, but prior to this legislation Excise duties were not leviable in the Protectorate. The duties imposed under the Ordinance are as follows :—

On sugar, excluding jaggery	per cwt. 1 sh.
On tea	per lb. 10 cts.
On cigarettes	per lb. 75 cts.
On manufactured tobacco other than cigarettes	per lb. 50 cts.

(ii) *Stamp Duties*.—The present stamp law in Uganda is contained in the Stamp Ordinance of 1915. This Ordinance appears to have been based largely on the Indian Stamp Act of 1899. The Indian Act of 1899 may be said to follow closely the English Stamp Act.

The Stamp Ordinance in Uganda provides that any instrument, whether executed or not and whether previously stamped or not, may be brought to a District Commissioner or the revenue authority for an adjudication as to the proper duty chargeable. The fee for adjudication shall not exceed 10s. and be not less than 1s.

The Stamp Ordinance may be summarized as follows :—Chapter 1 contains definitions, *inter alia*, regarding the nature of commercial and other documents. Chapter 2 is concerned with the

instruments chargeable with duty stamps and the method of using them, the time of stamping instruments executed within Uganda and without the Protectorate, how valuations are arrived at, and by whom duty is payable. Chapter 3 deals with adjudication as to stamps, whilst Chapter 4 lays down the procedure to be adopted and the action which may be taken in respect of instruments not duly stamped. Chapter 5 details allowances which may be made for spoiled stamps. Chapter 6 provides for reference and revision and, *inter alia*, for an appeal from any decision of the revenue authority to the High Court. Chapter 7 contains penalties for offences under the Ordinance.

A Schedule is annexed to the Ordinance showing the duty payable on the various instruments, which information is also supplied in the Protectorate Blue Book.

Below are given a few of the rates of duty in Uganda and England. It will be noted that the Uganda rates are usually higher :—

					<i>Uganda.</i> <i>Shs. Cts.</i>	<i>England.</i> <i>Shs. d.</i>
Affidavit	...	...	...	...	2 00	2 6
Agreement, Memorandum of	...	...	...	...	1 00	0 6
Articles of Association of Company	...	...	...	...	50 00	10 0
Bill of Exchange (e.g., a cheque)	...	...	...	...	0 20	0 2
Bill of Exchange and Pro-Note—						
Not exceeding £25	...	...	...	...	0 50	0 3
" " £50	...	...	...	...	1 00	0 6
Conveyance—						
Consideration £5	...	...	...	...	2 00	1 0
" £100	...	...	...	...	40 00	20 0
Memorandum of Association	...	...	...	...	30 00	10 0
Mortgage—						
Not exceeding £100	...	...	...	...	5 00	2 6
" " £300	...	...	...	...	15 00	7 6
Power of Attorney (General)	...	...	...	...	10 00	10 0
Receipt for more than 40s.	...	...	...	...	0 10	0 2

Poll Tax.

There is no hut tax in the Protectorate. A poll tax is levied both on natives and on non-natives. The amount of native poll tax, which also in some instances includes "tribute," a tax collected on behalf of certain Native Administrations, varies from 5s. to £1 1s. 0d. annually per adult male of the population, and is assessed according to the ability of the natives of the district to pay. In some cases a district is further sub-divided into counties for this purpose. The tax is collected under the supervision of Administrative Officers,

by native Chiefs, and a rebate based on a percentage of the tution is paid to the Native Administrations for this service with the "tribute." The following table shews the rates at in force, the gross yield, and the net yield, after deducting pa of rebate and/or "tribute" :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Gross Yield.</i>	<i>Gross Yield per Province.</i>	<i>Rebate and Tribute paid.</i>	
	<i>Shs.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	
<i>Buganda Kingdom—</i>					
Mengo	15s.	56,235			
Entebbe	15s.	24,653			
Masaka	15s. } 10s. }	21,427			
Mubende	15s. } 10s. }	19,659			
		—	121,974	23,684	98,2
<i>Eastern Province—</i>					
Busoga	21s.	75,305			
Bugwere	18s.	37,770			
Bugishu	18s.	32,166			
Budama	18s.	22,345			
Teso	18s.	66,728			
Lango	18s.	46,729			
Karamoja	5s.	3,757			
		—	284,800	80,948	203,85
<i>Northern Province—</i>					
Bunyoro	10s.	12,054			
Gulu	14s. } 8s. }	12,234			
Chua	8s.	7,119			
West Nile	8s.	16,384			
		—	47,791	12,820	34,971
<i>Western Province—</i>					
Toro	21s. } 16s. } 10s. } 6s. }	16,821			
Ankole	21s. } 16s. }	32,030			
Kigezi	16s. } 7s. }	13,386			
		—	62,237	24,506	37,731
Totals		£516,802	516,802	141,958	374,844

Non-native poll tax is payable at the rate of £1 10s. 0d. per annum by every adult male person of European or Asiatic descent, and also by natives of Africa who are not natives of the Protectorate according to the definition contained in the Poll Tax Ordinance, that is to say, who have not been resident in the Protectorate for one year prior to the first day of January of the year for which poll tax is due.

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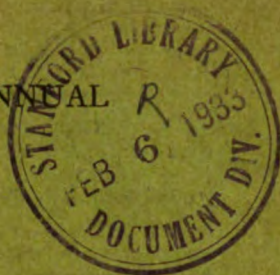
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

1. The Gold Coast Colony, with Ashanti, the Northern Territories and Togoland under British Mandate, is situated on the Gulf of Guinea between $3^{\circ} 7'$ W. long. and $1^{\circ} 14'$ E. long., and is bounded on the west by the French Colony of the Ivory Coast, on the east by Togoland under French Mandate, on the north by the French Soudan and on the south by the sea.

2. The area of the Colony is 23,937 square miles, of Ashanti 24,379, of the Northern Territories 30,486 and of Togoland under British Mandate 13,041.

3. The climate of the Gold Coast is on the whole hot and damp although rather cooler than that of most tropical countries situated within similar latitudes. The mean shade maximum temperature recorded during 1931 for three centres in the Colony, Ashanti and Northern Territories, viz. : Accra, Kumasi and Tamale, was 86.4° , 87.7° and 92.5° respectively and the mean relative humidity 76.6, 85.1, and 62.8. The rainfall varies with the configuration of the country, being greatest in the thick forest belts. The three centres, Accra, Kumasi and Tamale recorded the yearly totals of 29.22 inches, 66.69 inches and 40.06 inches respectively. During the months of January and February the Harmattan, a dry north-west wind from the Sahara, blows strongly, carrying with it clouds of dust and rendering the atmosphere extremely dry. The daily range of temperature is greatly increased during this period.

4. It is said that as early as the 13th century English and French navigators visited the Gold Coast, but according to records it was first discovered by Portuguese navigators in the latter part of the 14th century. In 1482 the Portuguese traded for gold near Elmina, at which place they made the first European settlement eleven years later. Several other settlements were found, and the country claimed for Portugal. The Portuguese remained in sole possession for over 50 years until the British commenced trading in 1582. The latter made no settlements, however, and their trade soon lapsed.

5. The Dutch appeared in 1595, rapidly becoming serious rivals of the Portuguese, and practically terminated the latter's occupation by capturing Elmina in 1637 and Fort St. Anthony at Axim in 1642.

6. Various companies of British merchants operated from 1618 onwards, and the "Company of Royal Adventurers of England Trading to Africa," which was incorporated in 1661, formed settlements at Anamabu, Accra, and Cape Coast, building a castle at the latter place.

7. The Swedes, Brandenburgers, and Danes also obtained a footing on the coast for varying periods, the Swedes building Christiansborg Fort, near Accra, about 1645. The Swedes and Brandenburgers ultimately withdrew, but the Danes rapidly improved their position, building forts between Accra and Ada and Keta, and exercising a kind of Protectorate over Akwapim and the Volta River District.

8. The third English company was unsuccessful, and the Treaty of Breda in 1667 left only Cape Coast Castle in British hands.

9. In 1672 the Royal African Company of England was incorporated, and under its influence British interests steadily advanced, and forts were established at several places, including Sekondi and Accra. The abolition of the exclusive privileges which the Company enjoyed, however, led to its decline and eventual dissolution in 1752. The "African Company of Merchants" was then formed, and was granted an annual subsidy by Parliament until 1821, when it was dissolved and its possessions vested in the Crown and placed under the Government of the West African Settlements, the seat of Government being at Sierra Leone.

10. In 1824, the Governor of Sierra Leone, Sir Charles MacCarthy, visited Cape Coast Castle and found the Fantis at war with the Ashantis. He led an army of Fantis, with a few disciplined soldiers, against the Ashantis. On the 24th January, 1824, he was killed at Insamankow, and his force totally routed. The war which ensued ended by the victory of the British at Dodowa, near Accra, in 1826, and peace was formally concluded by a Treaty in 1831 between the British, Fantis, and Ashantis.

11. After the peace the Government inclined to the policy of retiring from the coast, and transferred the government of the forts to the merchants interested, and Mr. George Maclean, the Governor appointed by them, contrived to extend and maintain his influence over the whole tract of country now known as the Gold Coast. In 1843, however, it was suspected that the Merchant Government connived at the slave trade, and the control of the forts was resumed by the Crown.

12. Hitherto the forts of the various nations were intermixed with each other, and there was no defined limit as to where the influence of one or the other began or ended. The imposition of Customs duties was rendered difficult, if not impossible, by the existence of the free ports of a rival nation within a stone's throw, as it were, of the duty ports. On the 24th January, 1850, by

Letters Patent, the Settlements on the Gold Coast ceased to be dependencies of Sierra Leone, and the Danish forts and protectorate were purchased. In 1866 the Gold Coast Settlements were reunited to Sierra Leone, and in 1867 a convention was made with the Dutch whereby the portion of the coast west of the Sweet River, which flows into the sea between Cape Coast and Elmina, was allotted to Holland, Great Britain taking all the territory to the east of the river, and a customs union between the two nations was established.

13. Many difficulties were, however, found in the way of Dutch occupation, as the native tribes refused to recognise their authority, and the prospect before them was that of a long series of petty wars with no reasonable hope of profit to be gained in the future. The result was the convention made between Great Britain and Holland in 1871; by which the Dutch transferred all their forts and possessions on the Coast to Great Britain, who at last obtained sole sovereignty of the territory from Half Assini to Aflao, the forts being transferred on the 6th April, 1872.

CHAPTER II.—GOVERNMENT.

14. At the conclusion of peace in 1874, measures were taken to place the government of the Gold Coast upon an efficient and secure footing.

15. By Charter of 24th July, 1874, the settlements of the Gold Coast and Lagos were separated from the government of the West African Settlements, and formed into one colony under the style of the Gold Coast Colony under a Governor-in-Chief with an Administrator at Lagos. There was one Executive Council and one nominated Legislative Council for the two settlements, and one Supreme Court. This Charter was superseded by Letters Patent dated the 23rd January, 1883, and the 13th January, 1886, respectively, and by the latter instrument Lagos was separated from the Gold Coast and formed into a distinct Colony. Provision was made for an Executive and Legislative Council, the members of both being nominated by the Crown; four unofficial members were appointed to the Legislative Council.

16. Both Councils were re-constituted by Royal Instructions dated 20th September, 1916, the Executive Council being constituted by the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services and the Secretary for Native Affairs with the Governor as President. The Legislative Council was constituted by the members of the Executive Council, and, in addition, six officials as ex-officio members, and such unofficial members as might be appointed by the Crown. The Legislative Council, which was re-constituted in 1925, is now composed of the Governor, fifteen official members and fourteen Unofficial members. For the first time it contains an elective element, provision having been made for the election of six Head Chiefs as Provincial Members, three municipal members to represent the towns of Accra, Cape Coast and Sekondi respectively, a mercantile member and a mining member.

17. The Legislative Council legislates for the Gold Coast Colony only. Ashanti and the Northern Territories are administered by the Governor.

18. The system of government generally may be described as a mixture of direct and indirect rule with a steady bias towards the latter. The Native Administration is almost entirely in the hands of the Native Chiefs, who are assisted in their respective spheres of authority by their councils of elders who are generally representative of various sections of the community. The Chiefs are responsible to Government through the District Commissioners. Native Tribunals presided over by Chiefs form part of the Colony's Judicial system, and their judgments are subject to appeal to the Supreme Court, and from the Supreme Court appeals may finally reach the Privy Council.

19. In executive and constitutional issues the decisions of a State Council, as the highest native authority is called, are subject to appeal to the Governor, whose decision is final.

20. The Gold Coast Colony is divided into three Provinces, Central, Western, and Eastern, the last including the Southern section of that part of Togoland under British mandate, and each Province is in charge of a Provincial Commissioner, assisted by District and Assistant District Commissioners.

21. Ashanti is divided into Districts each under a District Commissioner who exercises limited powers of jurisdiction. The dependency is administered by a Chief Commissioner with an Assistant Chief Commissioner as relieving officer. The Protectorate of the Northern Territories is administered in a similar manner.

22. The local affairs of the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi are administered by town councils, consisting of five official and five unofficial members. Their revenue is derived from house and land rates, various licences, and an annual grant-in-aid from Government. The councils are invested with powers and duties under certain Ordinances, and further have the power generally to do all such acts as may be necessary for the conservancy of the town and for the preservation of public health.

23. Town sanitary committees have been established at a number of smaller towns, but they are purely advisory, with no power of taxation. These committees, however, exercise a beneficial influence on the improvement of the sanitation of these towns, and are most useful institutions.

24. The municipal administration of Kumasi, the administrative headquarters of Ashanti, is in the hands of the Kumasi Public Health Board, which was formed in July, 1925. The revenue of the Board is chiefly derived from licences and fees similar to those charged by the various town councils in the Colony and from rents of Government land.

25. In the Colony the Governor in Council is empowered to declare any area within a town to be a "health area," and to regulate the erection of buildings within such an area.

CHAPTER III.—POPULATION.

26. The Colony is inhabited by a large number of native tribes, whose customs and form of government are of a more or less similar character.

27. The principal sea coast tribes are the following : Nzima, Shama, Komenda, Elmina, Cape Coast, Fanti, Winneba, Assin Gomoa, Ga, Adangbe, Awuna, Agbosome and Aflao.

28. In the interior of the Colony the principal tribes are : Aowin, Upper and Lower Wasaw, Sefwi, Upper and Lower Denkera, Twifu, Assin, Essikuma, Adjumako, Akim Abuakwa and Akim Kotoku, Kwahu, Akwapim, Eastern and Western Krobo, Akwamu, Krepi, Shai and Ningo.

29. In Ashanti the Ashantis and the Brong predominate, and in the Northern Territories there are some thirty-four tribes, classified in three language groups, Mole or Gagbani, Gur or Grumah and Akan.

30. The first group includes the Dagomba, Nanumba, Mamprusi, Kusasi, Builsa (Kanjarga), Nankanni, Nabdram, Dagarti, Lobi, Burifo, Talansi and Wala tribes, and the Safaliba.

31. The Gur or Grumah group comprises the Chamba, Komba, Gbimba, Nafeba, Nagbiba, Monkpimba and Bokasu, known collectively as Konkomba (barbarian), B'mawba, Kasena, Issalla, Vagella, Kpariba and Dega, while the Akan group includes the Chakosi, Gonja, Nchumeru, Nawuri, Dompoo, Choruba, Noma, Adjati and Adele tribes.

32. In that part of Togoland under British Mandate the principal tribes are the Kusasi, Mamprussi, Dagomba, Chokosi, Konkomba, Chamba, and Ewe-speaking peoples.

33. There is a considerable element of alien African races resident in the Gold Coast, more particularly in the coast areas and on the mines in the Western Province. Hausas and Kroos are particularly in evidence in Accra.

34. According to the census taken in April, 1931, the total population of the Gold Coast, including Ashanti, the Northern Territories and the British Mandate of Togoland has been returned at 3,163,568, of which 3,182 are non-Africans.

35. The distribution of the total African population of 3,160,386 is as shewn in the following comparative table :—

**COMPARATIVE RETURN OF THE RESIDENT AFRICAN POPULATION
OF THE COLONY AND ITS DEPENDENCES.**

	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.
THE COLONY.					
Eastern Province ...	(a) 314,024	541,253	441,820	664,207	855,076
Central Province ...	306,755	221,039	247,306	302,626	431,384
Western Province	183,406	133,038	163,540	205,080	284,902
Total ...	764,185	895,330	852,666	1,171,913	1,571,362
ASHANTI.					
Eastern Province ...	Nil.	(b) 345,891	287,814	{ 292,444 113,749	393,810 184,268
Western Province	Nil.				
Total ...	—	345,891	287,814	406,193	578,078
NORTHERN TERRITORIES.					
Southern Province	Nil.	307,724	361,806	{ 123,030 407,325	139,839 577,436
Northern Province	Nil.				
Total ...	—	(c) 307,724	361,806	530,355	717,275
THE MANDATED AREA OF TOGOLAND.					
Southern Section ...	Nil.	—	—	87,155	125,529
Northern Section ...	Nil.	—	—	109,784	168,142
Total ...	—	—	—	187,939	293,671
SUMMARY :—					
Colony ...	764,185	895,330	852,666	1,171,913	1,571,362
Ashanti ...	—	345,891	287,814	406,193	578,078
Northern Territories	—	307,724	361,806	530,355	717,275
Togoland ...	—	—	—	187,939	293,671
Total ...	764,185	1,548,945	1,502,286	2,296,400	3,160,386

(a) Kwahu and Krepi were omitted.

(b) Includes a rough estimate of 10,240 for Kintampo which in 1901 was included in the administrative area of the Northern Territories.

(c) An estimate only.

36. It will be noticed that there were general increases, the aggregate over the 1921 figures being 863,983 or 37.6 per cent.

37. This is a definite indication that apart from any influx of people from neighbouring countries the health of the autochthonous population has been well maintained during the past ten years.

38. The following remarks and statistics regarding Births and Deaths relate only to certain of the larger towns and cannot be taken as in any way indicative of the general rates : e.g. the comment below on the preponderance of male deaths.

39. *Births*.—Some 8,239 births were registered during 1931, of which 4,080 were males and 4,159 females. This gives a ratio of 100 males to 101.9 females.

Comparative rates for the last three years are as follows :—

				1929.		1930.		1931.
M.	...	...	...	3,693	...	4,090	...	4,080
F.	...	...	...	3,783	...	3,964	...	4,159
P. (total)	...	...	...	7,476	...	8,054	...	8,239

40. The natural increase of births over deaths was 2,267.

41. The combined birth-rate of the thirty registration areas is estimated at 31.3 for the year 1931, the rate for 1930 being 35.2.

42. *Deaths*.—Registrations in respect of deaths numbered 5,972 during 1931, of which 3,765 were males and 2,207 females, a proportion of 170.6 male to every 100 female deaths. The preponderance of male deaths has, no doubt, as in past years, a close reference to the annual influx of male labour from French West Africa and the Kru Coast.

43. Comparative rates for the last three years are as follows :—

				1929.		1930.		1931.
M.	...	...	...	3,454	...	3,752	...	3,765
F.	...	...	...	1,997	...	2,220	...	2,207
P. (total)	...	...	...	5,451	...	5,972	...	5,972

44. It is estimated that the combined crude death-rate of the thirty registration areas during 1931, per thousand living persons, was 23.5 as compared with 26.4 in 1930.

45. *Stillbirths*.—Only 343 stillbirths were reported during 1931. This is equivalent to four per hundred live-births, and is a remarkably low figure in a country where malaria, to name but one disease causing intra-uterine death, is known to be rife.

46. *Infantile Mortality*.—In 1930, the infant mortality rate was 116, and in 1931, the rate was 114 per thousand living births resulting from the deaths under one year of 936 infants.

47. Comparative rates for the last three years are as follows —

				1929.		1930.		1931.
Rates	...	...	...	113	...	116	...	114

48. In view of the fact that infant mortality provides a useful index of local health, it is pleasing to note the very considerable reduction that has taken place in the loss of infant life in registration areas during the past ten years—the rate in Accra having fallen from 247 in 1921 to 95 in 1931.

Migration.

49. The following are the data as to Non-Natives, Immigrants from other Colonies, and Native Foreigners found in the Gold Coast at the 1931 Census.

NON-NATIVES.

	British.	Other Europeans.	Syrians.	Others.	Total.
COLONY.					
Western Province	503	99	60	22	—
Central Province ...	166	81	40	11	—
Western Province	747	228	296	52	—
ASHANTI ...	324	124	166	10	—
NORTHERN TERRITORIES ...	85	13	8	—	—
TOGOLAND ...	18	24	—	1	—
MARITIME ...	68	4	—	32	—
Total ...	1,911	573	570	128	3,182

AFRICAN RESIDENTS DERIVING FROM OTHER COLONIES.

	Gambia.	Sierra Leone.	Nigeria.	Cameroon.	West Indies.	Others.
COLONY.						
Western Province	13	1,630	6,846	—	—	—
Central Province	5	59	10,518	—	1	—
Eastern Province	7	807	24,970	—	—	—
ASHANTI ...	—	299	15,036	—	—	—
NORTHERN TERRITORIES ...	—	—	6,378	—	—	—
TOGOLAND ...	—	13	3,955	—	—	—
Total ...	25	2,808	67,703	—	1	—

AFRICAN RESIDENTS DERIVING FROM NON-BRITISH COLONIES.

	French West African Possessions.	Liberia.	Unclassified.
COLONY.			
Western Province ...	14,277	3,078	75
Central Province ...	15,227	732	—
Eastern Province ...	37,806	2,792	6,203
ASHANTI ...	52,734	201	529
NORTHERN TERRITORIES ...	46,136	—	8,780
TOGOLAND ...	30,102	9	—
Total ...	196,282	6,812	15,587

50. The number of Europeans who entered the Gold Coast during 1931-32 was 2,411, an increase of 2 per cent over the previous year, while 1,965 left the Colony, an increase of 20 per cent over last year.

51. Thirty-one Africans left for places outside West Africa, while 51 returned from such places.

52. Records of Africans travelling between West African ports are not kept.

CHAPTER IV.—HEALTH.

53. The general health of the whole community was not unsatisfactory although the record of the health of the European section was not so good as it had been in the years immediately preceding. A localized outbreak of yellow fever in the Northern Territories in which a certain number of deaths occurred had much to do with this. In addition, the world financial depression imposed an extra strain on all Europeans and undoubtedly exerted a generally lowering influence on their health and welfare.

54. The health of the African community was fairly good. There was an absence of serious epidemics amongst them, although here also the financial condition had its adverse effect especially on the immigrant labouring class who suffered much from under-nourishment owing to shortage of money and consequent ability to purchase food.

55. In spite of a definite reduction in medical personnel owing to retrenchments the numbers of out-patients and in-patients treated in the hospitals and dispensaries of the Colony were well maintained. The following statement shows the total numbers dealt with by both branches of the Department (Medical and Health) in the general and contagious diseases hospitals, dispensaries and clinics of the Colony during the past two years :—

			<i>In-patients.</i>	<i>Out-patients.</i>
1930-31	...	...	18,864	251,921
1931-32	...	...	18,584	240,483

56. By far the greater proportion of the population of the Gold Coast lives in small villages and is engaged in farming, cacao being the chief product. Prevalent diseases are yaws, malaria, dysentery, worms, ulcers, etc. In the gold-mining area around Tarkwa tuberculosis is regrettably common in underground workers.

57. Of infective diseases the total treated amounted to 108,166 or about 41.75 per cent of the total of 259,067 of all in- and out-patients. An analysis of the diseases of the group treated was as follows :—

							Per cent.
Yaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	57.82
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.76
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.15
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.76
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.23
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.19
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	.64
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.45

58. Five hundred and eighty-two deaths from infective diseases occurred in Government Institutions and were caused as follows :—

Pneumonia	31.09
Tuberculosis	27.66
Malaria	8.07
Dysentery (amœbic)	4.29
Septicæmia	4.29
Bacillary dysentery	1.71
Blackwater fever	1.37
Other diseases	21.52

These constituted .53 per cent of all infective diseases treated.

59. Of the total of all diseases treated, viz., 259,067, an analysis showed the following :—

	Per cent.
*Preventable diseases	50.89
Affections of the digestive system... ..	10.86
Affections of skin and cellular tissue	9.93
Affections of respiratory system	5.91
Affections of nervous system and of organs of special sense	4.77
Affections of genito-urinary system (non-venereal)	2.24
Affections of bones and organs of locomotion	1.73
Affections of circulatory system	0.90
General diseases	3.56
Other diseases	9.21

60. One thousand four hundred and nine deaths occurred from all diseases which can be classified as follows :—

	Per cent.
Preventable diseases	51.31
Digestive diseases	10.29
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal)	7.45
Nervous diseases and organs of special sense	4.54
General diseases	4.40
Skin and cellular tissue	3.12
Circulatory diseases	2.83
Respiratory diseases	2.62
Affections of bone and organs of locomotion ... ..	.70
Other diseases	12.74

*Note.—Preventable diseases include infectious diseases, intoxication and poisons, scabies and tinæ, helminths and affections produced by external causes.

61. An outbreak of smallpox in a mild form and easily controlled took place in Eastern Dagomba (Northern Territories) and the neighbouring area of Togoland. Two hundred and one cases occurred with a mortality of eight per cent.

62. Vaccination is steadily maintained. Over 364,000 were performed during the year with over 87 per cent of successes.

63. A disquieting event was the recurrence during the year of yellow fever from which the Gold Coast had been so happily free for over three years. Seventeen cases occurred with 12 deaths. Europeans in Tamale suffered severely; all five cases there ended fatally.

64. Malaria prevails everywhere and is a constant drain on the health of all classes. It constitutes six to eight per cent of all cases treated and 20 per cent of all working days lost by European officials are due to this one cause.

65. Of blackwater fever there were 19 cases with four deaths in Europeans. In Africans and Syrians nine cases and four deaths were recorded.

66. Of venereal diseases syphilis is uncommon but gonorrhoea is widespread.

PROVISIONS FOR TREATMENT.

(a) MEDICAL, HEALTH AND LABORATORY SERVICES STAFF.

67. On the 1st April, 1932, there was an estimated provision in the Medical, Health and Laboratory Service Branches for seven Administrative Officers, two Specialists, 42 Medical Officers, two Pathologists, five Women Medical Officers, four African Medical Officers. In addition there were one European Matron and 30 Nursing Sisters and 246 African Nurses (Ordinary and Mental) and Midwives. The Health Branch included nine European Medical Officers of Health, 20 European and 101 African Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors. There were in addition 78 Dispensers and ten Laboratory Attendants.

68. The training of the African subordinate staff is concentrated in Accra. Nurses and dispensers for the Colony are trained at the Gold Coast Hospital, midwives and health visitors at the Maternity and Princess Marie Louise Children's Hospitals and sanitary inspectors at the special school for the purpose.

69. A scheme for establishing a body of specially qualified Nurse-Dispensers who will be in charge of dispensaries in the rural areas has recently been initiated. These are being trained to deal with yaws, malaria, etc., and the prevalent complaints.

(b) HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

70. There are in all seven European hospitals with a total of 74 beds. These hospitals are up-to-date, well staffed and well equipped, and 769 in-patients and 1,745 out-patients were dealt with during the year.

71. There are altogether 33 African hospitals containing 903 beds and 92 cots. Well equipped dispensaries are attached to all the hospitals. The Gold Coast Hospital at Accra with 227 beds and cots is one of the finest in Africa. An idea of its work may be gained from the following figures.

	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Total Out-patients	13,786	14,638	14,191	13,261
Total In-patients	2,661	3,087	3,572	3,645
Major Operations	602	671	650	675
Minor Operations	295	436	670	709
Daily average (In-patients) ...	208	233	222	223

72. At the African Hospital, Kumasi, with 140 beds and cots, equally valuable work goes on.

	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Out-patients Total	18,546	19,539	20,881	17,804
In-patients Total	2,508	2,137	2,360	1,954
Operations Major	202	194	206	229
Operations Minor	248	170	286	382
Daily average (In-patients) ...	124.6	157.5	138.9	134.2

73. The Maternity Hospital, Accra, is one of the most valuable institutions in the Gold Coast, and its work is increasing yearly and the demand in accommodation is insistent. The value of its work is shown by the rapid drop in maternal mortality in Accra since its erection in 1928. A reduction from 17 per 1,000 (1917 to 1929) to 6.1 in 1930 and seven in 1931 is a remarkable achievement.

74. Extension of accommodation is very much required. There are only 29 beds and 678 in-patients admissions took place during 1930-31 which increased to 972 in the following year. During the year ten nurses qualified as midwives, who are controlled and regulated by a Midwives' Board working under a Midwives' Ordinance.

75. Of two travelling dispensaries one had to cease to function during the year but the other continued work throughout the year in the Lawra area.

(c) MISSION HOSPITALS.

76. There is only one Mission hospital in the Gold Coast. This is a fine Hospital with 60 beds situated at Agogo in Ashanti and does excellent work under the direction of the Basel Mission.

77. The Roman Catholic Mission has recently opened a dispensing and child welfare centre in the Axim district and further extension of work in the Eastern and Western Provinces is being organised.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

78. Hygiene and sanitation, port health work, infant welfare work, etc., are controlled by the Health branch. Vaccination for smallpox, anti-rat measures for plague, mosquito control for yellow fever and malaria, health propaganda, and so on, besides general routine sanitation, are steadily carried on.

79. In spite of financial depression certain advances can be recorded. A well-planned scheme for the dangerous marshy area west of Achimota College was begun, a new pipe-borne water supply for Tamale was opened in March, 1932, steady progress was made on the Kumasi water supply scheme, and the opening of a new market at Cape Coast may be noted.

80. Efficient port health work is carried on at Accra and Takoradi and all ports of entry, particular attention being paid to the eradication of rats and mosquitoes and to the spread of infection between ship and shore. No port was declared infected during the year.

81. Ante-natal and child welfare work suffered a set-back owing to reduction in staff consequent on falling revenue. The children's hospitals at Accra and Kumasi continued their valuable work throughout the year. It is feared that a further drop in revenue may cause a regression in this valuable branch but voluntary schemes for the carrying on of this work under the guidance of the Red Cross Society are already being formed.

CHAPTER V.—HOUSING.

82. It will be readily understood that the economic depression from which the Gold Coast, in common with so many other countries, is suffering at the present time has had, inevitably, a certain repercussion on the construction or the completion of houses.

83. On the other hand it is very gratifying to note that the value of a solid and healthy type of building is being more and more appreciated by the African population. From discussions with householders in various parts of the Gold Coast it is evident that house construction is undertaken for three main reasons, other than to provide shelter for the family and relatives of the builder, viz., to serve as an investment by leasing portions of the house to strangers thereby bringing in a certain financial return, to serve as security for money borrowed to open up a business or to purchase a lorry or to employ labour on farms and, lastly, to form a legacy to the heirs of the owner.

84. The day has passed when the indigenous people living in the more populous centres along the littoral and in inland towns were content with mud and wattle or rush or grass huts which soon became dilapidated owing to the depredations of termites and the effects of wind and rain and which were dangerous owing to the possibility of fire and on account of the harbourage for vermin which they afforded.

85. The progress in house construction has been phenomenal and this is particularly noticeable in the ports, such as Accra and Sekondi, and in certain of the larger townships as, for example, Kumasi in Ashanti.

86. Where funds have not been available for the construction of concrete block or brick houses the solid *pise de terre* or, as it is locally called, "swish" or puddled earth type is favoured.

87. Especially good work has been done in Ashanti and very many villages and townships have been laid out on modern lines with ample provision for lanes, open spaces, sanitary sites and recreation fields, the houses themselves being built in solid swish rendered inside and out with cement, and with well-ventilated rooms of adequate size with cross-ventilation and louvred windows.

88. Smaller townships in the Colony proper and in the Northern Territories are following the lead of Ashanti, but here and there in the Colony itself there has been a slight retrogression owing to lack of adequate supervision or encouragement and insanitary vermin-ridden wattle and daub or corrugated iron dwellings have been erected.

89. The rectangular or so-called Ashanti type of compound built on a plot of 60×80 feet has been adopted to a large extent even in backward areas in the Colony proper and every endeavour is made to educate the local community to appreciate the advantages of this type.

90. For some time to come the round hut with grass roof will hold sway in all but the larger townships in the Northern Territories, although this type, which has certain obvious disadvantages from the health standpoint, e.g. darkness, and inadequate ventilation, thus favouring the presence of vermin, is being rapidly replaced in Tamale and one or two other townships in the north.

91. Happily the indigenous population has no need to live in tenements.

92. It is mainly the Kru from the Kru Coast or the labourers from the Ivory Coast, Haute Volta and French Sudan who are in any way disposed to live in groups in sheds or hangers, and they are driven to do this to a certain extent on account of the relatively high rents charged by local house-owners and because they are compelled to economise in the matter of cooks, since they are for the most part bachelors.

93. Legislation exists to prevent overcrowding but it is difficult to invoke.

94. House-to-house inspection forms one of the more important activities of the Health branch and advantage is invariably taken during such visits to point out defects in housing. Where necessary information is given to the local officers of the Public Works Department and notices for repair or demolition of dangerous or dilapidated dwellings are served on the owner.

95. In the larger areas European and African Building Inspectors are available for inspection duties and to give advice on housing, but the number of officers in these grades has been reduced as an economy measure.

96. The actual legal sanctions for the control of housing and town-planning vary in the different parts of the Gold Coast and its Dependencies.

97. For example, Building Regulations drafted under the Towns Ordinance have been applied to the following townships: Achimota, Nsawam, Koforidua, Mangoase, Nkawka, Keta, Somanya, Suhum, Aburi, Mampong, Akropong, Agona Swedru, Oda, Saltpond, Winneba, Axim, Dunkwa, Takoradi, Tarkwa, Ho and Kpandu.

98. In such towns and in those having a municipal or quasi-municipal organisation, for example, Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi and Kumasi, the local building regulations are applied in detail. Whereas slightly less detailed regulations are applicable to other towns to which the Towns Ordinance has been applied ; and so on down to very simple rules for townships and villages in Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

99. Government has undertaken housing schemes from time to time, the best example being the New Zongo at Kumasi constructed to take the place of the rat-ridden and plague-infected swish and wattle hovels demolished during the plague epidemic of 1924-25.

100. In addition there have been housing schemes which provided for the loan of building materials or the giving of credit to assist would-be house-owners, but these have not been a great success and, except under special circumstances, as for example, an outbreak of dangerous infectious disease, it is felt that house construction should be left largely to private enterprise.

101. There are no building societies at present in the Gold Coast Colony or its Dependencies but there seems no reason why the scope of the Co-operative (Agricultural) Societies should not be widened in selected areas or separate building societies formed on the same lines to assist persons to build house property.

102. The progress in house construction and in the layout of towns and villages in the Gold Coast and its Dependencies during the last decade has been so marked as to be of very favourable augur for the future of the Colony and of its peoples.

CHAPTER VI.—PRODUCTION.

103. The principal occupation of the inhabitants of the Gold Coast is agriculture. In the Colony, Ashanti and Southern Togoland the chief agricultural industry is the cultivation of cacao for export, and in the Northern Territories, where cacao does not thrive, the raising and marketing of stock and the raising of crops are the principal occupations.

104. Steps are now being taken to encourage the large-scale production of such fruits as bananas, oranges, and pine-apples, more especially in the coastal regions, with a view to the creation of a fruit export industry.

105. Next in importance to agriculture is the mining industry. Gold mining has been long established in the Western Province of the Colony and in Southern Ashanti: There is a manganese mine in the Western Province and diamond mines in the Eastern Province.

AGRICULTURE.

CACAO.

106. Production of cacao can only be assessed by direct methods. Cultivation is wholly by native farmers, whose holdings, not necessarily single units, average $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres each. 90 per cent of the crop is harvested between August and January, but exports spread out from September to May. The average export for a season is about 220,000 tons. The 1931-32 season production was about 205,000 tons. Of this amount some 6,000 tons came from the Mandated Territory of Togoland, of which 1,600 tons was shipped from the Gold Coast and the remainder from French Togoland.

107. The distribution of production is moving westward. New cultivation is mainly in the Western Province of Ashanti, and the Western Province of the Colony.

108. There is some indication that the peak of production has been reached, as population is a limiting factor, and increased planting is offset by a reduction in yield of the older areas, in the absence of any manuring or soil cultivation.

109. A system of co-operative cacao growers' societies has been founded under the Co-operative Societies Ordinance 1931. Societies are formed and supervised by the Department of Agriculture. All cacao sold through these societies is of high purity and commands a price premium.

KOLA.

110. There are two main kola areas. In the Colony, production has declined in favour of cacao. The export from Accra, about 3,000 tons in 1924, has steadily fallen to 1,450 tons in 1930-31 and 550 tons in 1931-32. The quantity transported northwards by road was 210 tons against three tons in the previous year.

111. The Ashanti area production has remained fairly constant at about 5,500. In 1924, 2,500 tons were shipped from Takoradi; last year the export from that port had fallen to 600, and this year to 33 tons. The overland export however, about 2,000 in 1924, steadily rose to about 4,500 tons in 1931.

OIL PALM PRODUCTS.

112. The oil palm is indigenous, and found wild throughout the rain forest. Pericarp oil and palm kernel oil are used locally for culinary purposes. Production for export depends chiefly on the price, and on financial conditions. The export has fallen off as shown below :—

				<i>Tons.</i>	£
1931	...	...	...	319	4,739
1930	...	...	...	402	10,083
1929	...	...	...	568	16,529

113. One mill is being worked in the Western Province. A mill built in the Eastern Province under the Government subsidy scheme was closed down owing to the low price of oil.

114. The export of kernels was as follows :—

				<i>Tons.</i>	£
1931	...	...	...	3,719	35,428
1930	...	...	...	4,945	64,061
1929	...	...	...	5,967	89,433

COPRA.

115. During the last two years the export of copra has fallen off owing to low prices.

				<i>Tons.</i>	£
1931	...	...	...	1,065	12,033
1930	...	...	...	917	15,655
Average 1924-1919	...	...	...	1,359	29,500

COTTON.

116. There were no maritime exports during the year; 3,466 lbs. of lint were produced in 1930. Export over the frontier of seed cotton was 200,221 lbs. against 236,253 lbs. in 1930, from Togoland. Cotton production in the Northern Territories is being developed slowly, but no exportable surplus is yet produced.

RICE.

117. A Government rice mill in the Western Province has encouraged production. The following table gives the tons of paddy brought to the mill :—

		1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
Paddy	...	35	128	191	106	289

118. In other parts of the Colony small patches are produced for local use.

119. The rice from the mill is all consumed locally, and fetches 10s. per 100 lbs. at the mill against 12s. last year. The average price for the previous three years was 14s.

RUBBER.

120. Owing to low prices, and the relative costliness of labour the production has fallen from 540,000 lbs. valued at £21,986 in 1930 to 221,000 lbs. valued at £4,936 in 1931.

SISAL HEMP.

121. With the closing down of the Government plantation at Accra last year, there was no production of sisal in 1931.

FOOD CROPS.

122. There is a large production of food crops—yams, cassava, maize, cocoyams, groundnuts, guinea corn, plantains, etc., for local consumption. With the falling off of imported foodstuffs owing to the financial conditions, the production of local food crops has increased, but cannot be estimated with any degree of accuracy.

123. The staple foodstuffs vary considerably in different parts of the country. In the Navrongo District of the Northern Territories the staple vegetable foods are millet, guinea-corn, beans, groundnuts, and shea butter, while beef, mutton, goats, game and poultry are quite commonly eaten.

124. In the Lawra—Wa area of the Northern Territories, a Savannah type of country, yams and maize are the staple foods. Shea-nuts and groundnuts are also part of the diet. Animal foods are not so commonly eaten.

125. Further south in Mamprusi, the Northern Section of Togoland, and the Southern Province yams are the main food supply, with maize and millet, beans and sweet potatoes, shea butter and groundnuts. Animal foods are eaten in considerably less quantities. This is the true Savannah region and is remarkable for the scarcity of its population.

126. In the Forest zone, the area of greatest productivity and containing the cacao and mining regions, plantains, yams, maize, beans, groundnuts, palm-oil and fruits, cocoyams, sweet potatoes and cassava are eaten, while animal foods are still more sparingly eaten.

127. In the Coastal zone, which includes all the principal shipping centres and the great trade centres, maize, cassava, plantains, palm-oil, coconut and rice are mainly eaten, while beef, mutton and pork are the animal foods. This area also has a considerable fish diet.

HIDES AND SKINS.

128. The total export of all kinds showed a large decrease in 1931, amounting to less than 50 per cent of the 1930 export.

PRODUCTION BY NON-AFRICANS.

129. In general there have been but few plantation ventures and these have not been sufficiently successful to encourage development. The companies which had survived until the current year have suffered from the low prices obtaining for produce and with one exception are not likely to survive. Four of these companies situated in the Western Province and Southern Ashanti were producing rubber and their production has fallen by some 60 per cent during the year. In the Eastern Province a large general plantation ceased all operations other than the harvesting of cacao, coffee and fruits. A small coffee plantation, near Kumasi, was likewise compelled to stop all expenditure other than that required to harvest the crop. One plantation near Akrokerri in Ashanti, producing mainly cacao, under the able management of a single European, managed to continue activities and pay its way. The owners of an extensive concession astride the railway in the Central Province, have had under consideration the question of growing bananas on a large scale with a view to export but at the close of the year no decision had been taken in the matter.

ANIMAL HEALTH.

130. Pong-Tamale, in the Northern Territories, is the headquarters of the Department of Animal Health which consists of a Principal Veterinary Officer, a Veterinary Pathologist, five Veterinary Officers, an Inspector of Livestock and eleven African Veterinary Assistants. One of the Veterinary Officers is being retrenched on account of the bad financial position and the Veterinary Pathologist's post is also likely to be abolished.

131. The new laboratory has not yet started work owing to the new Veterinary Pathologist being invalided. A Veterinary Officer has been withdrawn from the field and will begin the manufacture of Anti-Rinderpest Serum in April, 1932.

132. The following is a rough census of the livestock of the country :—

	Cattle.	Sheep and Goats.	Horses.	Donkeys.	Pigs.
Colony	40,000	220,000	200	100	60,000
Ashanti	1,500	10,000	400	500	20,000
Northern Territories	110,000	454,200	3,740	16,430	6,810

ANIMAL DISEASES.

Anthrax.

133. Sporadic outbreaks occurred throughout the country. The incidence of this disease is not tending to increase.

Cattle Plague (Rinderpest).

134. In spite of the delay in the manufacture of laboratory Anti-Rinderpest serum, between twenty and thirty thousand head of cattle have been immunised this year in addition to last year's thirty-one thousand. All this work has been done in the Northern Territories and represents the first real big constructive effort in the Protectorate for the general economic welfare of the people. Owing to transport difficulties, no crop can be exported economically but cattle can be taken to the markets on the hoof and earn a very ready sale and a good profit. In the past, devastating epizootics of cattle plague have ravaged the country and the cattle were reduced to a fifth or less of their numbers at the beginning of the century. The disease could not be controlled until the present cattle immunisation scheme was inaugurated in 1930. The initial immunisation of the basic stock of the country should be completed by the early part of 1934. Already the cattle population of the country is increasing and the owners have regained confidence now that they realise that the periodic holocausts at the shrine of rinderpest have ended. No natural outbreak of any note arose in the Northern Territories. In the Coastal livestock area of the Colony, a serious outbreak occurred and accounted for at least ten thousand out of the forty thousand local cattle. Owing to shortage of Veterinary Staff and lack of equipment, segregation and isolation measures were the only possible prophylactics and though the disease was thereby confined to certain areas, the large casualties show how necessary is active immunisation against cattle plague.

135. *Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia* is endemic in this country and rarely becomes epizootic. It is controlled by slaughter of sick and immediate in-contact animals. One serious localised outbreak occurred during the period.

136. *Rabies* was reported from several centres and appears to be increasing. Lack of recognition of the symptoms in dogs by the public is probably a contributory factor.

137. *Trypanosomiasis* is practically never seen clinically in the local small West African Shorthorn cattle which are very highly resistant, and seldom in the humped Zebu which are all imported for slaughter and have a sufficient resistance to inhibit clinical symptoms for their comparatively short period of residence. Imported Zebus are susceptible if kept permanently in fly areas. Many cases were seen in horses which are highly susceptible. Successful treatment in many cases, especially *T. vivax* infections,

was effected by intravenous injections of tartar emetic and also by Antimosan, a Bayer product, a non-toxic antimony salt. A large clearing experiment is being tried at Pong-Tamale to eliminate *Glossina tachinoides* and *palpalis* from a large part of the valley of the Naboggo River. If fully successful, as there is every reason to believe, similar methods could clear inexpensively large areas from tsetse fly.

LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT.

138. *Castrations of scrub animals.*—Several thousand scrub cattle as well as sheep, goats and pigs were sterilised. Zebu (humped) bulls and half-bred Zebu bulls were issued during the year. The attempted grade-up of the local cattle by heavy English bulls was a complete failure owing to the crosses being unable to stand local conditions and losing resistance to local diseases. The Zebu crosses are a distinct improvement on the local animal and are much more likely to be successful.

PONG-TAMALE LIVESTOCK FARM.

139. Experiments in crossing Niger Rams and local ewes have resulted in an improved animal which appears to possess the resistance of the dam to local diseases.

140. Eight pure-bred Middle White, 23 half-bred Middle White and 25 half-bred Large White pigs were issued or sold for breeding.

141. Over four hundred pure-bred Rhode Island Red and Buff Orpington poultry were sold or issued.

142. The stock improvement farm has been much extended and improved since the move to Pong-Tamale. The large output of improved swine and poultry is producing a marked beneficial effect on the general stock of the country.

LIVESTOCK TRADE.

143. The number of stock imported through the quarantine stations during the last three years was :—

	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Cattle	51,952	50,434	39,001
Sheep and Goats	100,405	68,869	31,771

144. During the year 1931-32 approximately 32,560 cattle and 36,871 sheep and goats were exported.

145. The revenue collected during the year was £13,166 4s. 3d. The decrease is due partly to bad trade and partly to yellow fever and rinderpest restrictions. The decreased cattle import is mainly due to the latter causes and that of sheep and goats to the former.

146. The local livestock trade continues to develop and increase. With the co-operation of administrative officers, livestock fairs are being instituted at Northern Territories markets where local stock will be auctioned.

147. The hide and skin trade has been very poor but the improvement in flaying continues.

FORESTRY.

148. The total forest area of the Colony, Ashanti and British Mandated Togoland is estimated at 15,350 square miles. The merchantable area from a timber point of view is said to be 10,000 square miles, but it is estimated that only about 5,000 of this is sufficiently well tapped by rivers and railways to be economically exploited for the export timber trade.

149. The forest policy of the Gold Coast is designed primarily for the creation and maintenance of forest reserves of sufficient area and suitable distribution for the purpose of maintaining water supplies and the humid climatic conditions required by the major agricultural industries on which the prosperity of the country so largely depends. This policy aims at the ultimate reservation of 6,000 square miles of forest or 24 per cent of the total area afforested, as distinct from savannah or parkland, country. To date some 3,148 square miles have been secured or are about to be secured. The ownership of the land, originally vested in the Native Authorities, is not disturbed, and wherever these Authorities are able and willing to do so the administration of the reserves is left in their hands, Forest Officers acting in an advisory capacity. In cases of proved mal-administration resort is had to the Forests Ordinance and the Government, through the Forestry Department, usually assumes management.

150. The productive aspect is, for the present, subordinated to the protective; such exploitation of the timber assets of the country as takes place is carried out entirely by private enterprise and mostly from forest land not included in the reserves. The destruction of immature trees of some of the more important economic species is controlled by legislation, and regulations exist whereby the felling of mahogany for export, regardless of its origin, is effectively supervised. Exploitation of the other species of forest crop, many of which are utilisable and now coming into prominence on overseas markets, is controlled in the forest reserves, but not in areas outside of them. Comparative figures of mahogany exports are attached as Appendix I. No data are yet obtainable on which to estimate the annual local consumption of timber and other forest produce; timber is extensively used not only in the mining industry but also in the domestic life of the people.

151. The productive capacity of the local classes of forest which exist in the forested country has not yet been fully determined. The components consist of 300 or more tree species, some 100 or more of which may be classed as "timber trees," i.e., trees capable of producing timber of merchantable dimensions. The grades of timber are almost as numerous as the species and by no means all have a recognised economic value. Subject to later and more detailed investigation it is estimated that the present capacity, including an appreciable volume of over-mature stock, of all classes of timber is some 1,500 cubic feet per acre or an annual output of 100 cubic feet per acre. In terms of species of recognised economic value this figure should be reduced considerably, but the possibility, assuming that the projected programme of forest reserves is carried out, is an annual output of some one hundred million cubic feet of timber from these species. As a national asset these reserves are of considerable potential, monetary value, quite apart from whatever value attaches to them from the protective functions they are designed to exercise. Neither the potential monetary nor the actual protective values appear yet to have impressed themselves deeply on the African mind. To him forest land is the ideal cultivable land and his system of shifting cultivation has done and continues to do irreparable damage.

152. The recent general economic depression has been reflected in the timber trade. Not only have exports fallen off but there has also been an appreciable diminution in building operations. The one forest product that appears to be in increased demand is the palm tree, and it is reported from various parts of the country that the sale of palm wine is now becoming a large industry and that the increasing number of vendors of this product forces itself on one's notice.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1931 FOR THE GOLD COAST.

PLANT AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT.

153. *Economic Investigations and Enquiries.*—During 1931 the following investigations and enquiries were carried out for the Gold Coast.

154. *Danta wood (Cistanthera papaverifera).*—In continuation of a previous report on the green timber as received from the Forestry Department, a report was furnished giving the results of a complete series of mechanical tests and working trials carried out (partly at the Imperial Institute and partly at the Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough) on air-dried Danta wood with a standard moisture content of about 12 per cent

The results of the investigation indicated that the timber compares not unfavourably with hickory, ash and other woods used for tool handles, and practical tests by manufacturers confirmed this opinion. The Imperial Institute Advisory Committee on Timbers agreed that the selected timber should be suitable for hammer handles and for pick and shovel handles, except of the highest class, provided that it can be offered at a competitive price.

155. Before arranging for further practical trials the Committee requested information as to the price at which the timber could be landed in the United Kingdom, the supplies likely to be available, and whether consignments could be offered in the form of sawn planks as well as logs. This information was duly received, a price of 5s. or 6s. per cubic foot for logs and 7s. 6d. for planks, c.i.f. London or Liverpool, being quoted with the intimation that these figures could be considerably reduced for large quantities of the timber; as regards supplies, the timber was stated to be available in almost unlimited quantity. The Advisory Committee on Timbers were of opinion that the prices quoted were too high in comparison with those of hickory but that it would be worth while for the Forestry Department to endeavour to market the timber at a lower figure.

APPENDIX I.

MAHOGANY EXPORT.

		<i>Cubic feet.</i>		<i>Value.</i>
				£
1927	...	1,239,721	...	120,348
1928	...	1,547,776	...	138,853
1929	...	1,430,230	...	160,364
1930	...	934,790	...	100,098
1931	...	625,829	...	61,258

DISTRIBUTION OF MAHOGANY EXPORTS.

Countries exported to.	Quantities.				
	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.
United Kingdom ...	485,572	490,382	598,080	429,250	162,659
Other parts of British Empire ...	—	15,200	—	—	—
British West Africa ...	—	—	—	30	—
United States of America	654,869	984,788	824,610	426,201	458,378
France ...	328	600	800	51	—
Holland ...	1,344	252	—	—	744
Germany ...	2,880	5,292	—	—	4,048
Other Foreign Countries	94,728	51,262	6,740	—	—
Totals ...	1,239,721	1,547,776	1,430,230	*855,532	625,829

*This makes a total of 855,532 c. ft. for the year 1930 *vide* Table 14 of the Blue Book for 1930-31 and *Gazette* (Trade Supplement) No. 12 of 1931. Table No. 20 of the same Blue Book shows a total of lumber exported during the year 1930 as 934,790 c. ft. including woods other than mahogany.

MINERALS.

GOLD.

156. During the year under review the gold won amounted to 264,422 fine ounces having a value at par of £1,123,266, as compared with 246,075 ounces and £1,045,327 for the previous year.

157. This improvement is mainly due to an increase in the tonnage mined and treated by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation at Obuasi and by the Akoon Syndicate (now the Tarkwa Gold Areas) at Abbontiakoon.

158. With the exception of some 26 ounces won by alluvial mining methods at Abranbran Concession near Dunkwa, all the gold won was obtained from four lode mines, two of which are operating on the banket and two on quartz reefs.

159. By far the largest producer was the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, and there is reason to believe that the wonderful success of this Company is likely to be maintained.

160. At Bibiani work is still confined to development, and the size and value of the ore-body as so far disclosed is so promising that it has been decided to erect a trial crushing and treatment plant, which will be extended should further development work warrant such a course.

MANGANESE.

161. The ore exported by the African Manganese Company, which is still the only producer on the Gold Coast, amounted to 218,637 tons (wet) having a value of £339,252, being 177,407 tons and £354,207 less than last year.

162. In 1929-30, when conditions were normal, there were exported 496,486 tons valued at £836,417, so that in the short space of two years there has been a decrease of 277,849 tons and £497,165, while the number of native employees has been reduced from 1,740 to 765.

163. This serious decline is due in part to the general depression, and in some measure to the fact that the price of manganese ore has been forced below its economic level by the Soviet Government in their efforts to capture the market.

164. The outlook in the near future is, therefore, not very promising.

DIAMONDS.

165. There were exported 790,737 carats valued at £383,585, as compared with 848,199 carats and £595,079 for the previous year.

166. This decrease is due to the low prices now ruling.

167. There were four companies operating, namely: The Consolidated African Selection Trust, Ltd., at Akwatia; the West African Diamond Syndicate at Kokotenten; the Holland Syndicate operating near Kade; and Cayco (London) Ltd., at Topiramang.

168. There was but little prospecting done for diamonds outside the areas held under concessions during the year, which is doubtless due to the lack of incentive now that prices are so low; also, efforts in this direction have probably been influenced by the lack of success attending the extensive prospecting operations of the previous year.

LABOUR.

169. The average number of natives employed in general mining operations amounted to 11,839, as compared with 12,380 of the previous year, showing a decrease of 541. This is due chiefly to the great reduction in the number of natives employed in manganese and diamond mining, which is all the more noticeable in view of the fact that there was a marked increase in the number of natives employed in gold mining.

170. The supply of labour has been ample for mining purposes.

CONCESSIONS.

171. Eleven certificates of validity in the Colony and one in Ashanti in respect of mining concessions were gazetted during the year.

172. Of these, one was for gold, two for diamonds, one for bauxite and seven for minerals in general.

GENERAL.

173. Since 21st September, 1931, when Great Britain abandoned the gold standard, the price of this metal has been at a premium, which has not only acted as a stimulus to the companies at present operating, but also as an inducement for others to take up concessions for the purpose of winning gold.

174. This is the only hopeful feature at present in Gold Coast mining, as until the world's economic problems have been solved, there is little likelihood of expansion in the manganese and diamond industries.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1931 FOR THE GOLD COAST.

MINERAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT.

Economic Investigations and Inquiries.

175. During the year 1931 the following investigations and inquiries were carried out for the Gold Coast Geological Survey Department:—

Bauxite.—Three samples of bauxite were found to contain from 28 to 54 per cent of alumina. The percentages of ferric oxide ranged from 0.9 to 18, and of silica from one to 30.

Mineral Specimens.—Complete chemical analyses were made of ten, and partial analyses of two mineral specimens, and a mineralogical identification was made of another. Two other specimens were assayed for platinum, none being found, and in one of them a small percentage of chromic oxide was determined. Two other specimens were assayed for gold, less than 2 dwt. per ton being found in one of them. Small percentages of chromic oxide and manganese dioxide were found, respectively, in two other samples.

Monazite.—A sample of monazite was found to contain 61.7 per cent of cerium earths, and 6.5 per cent of thoria.

Diamond concentrates.—Complete mineralogical examinations were made of 17 concentrates.

PUBLICATIONS.

A special report on the research work on minerals carried out in the Gold Coast, supplied by the Geological Survey, appeared in No. 3 of the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute.

CHAPTER VII.—COMMERCE.

IMPORTS.

176. The value of all imports for the year was £4,803,874, being £4,149,896, or 46 per cent, less than the value of the imports for 1930.

177. The following table shows the value of imports for the years 1930 and 1931 respectively arranged on a tariff basis :—

<i>Head of Imports.</i>	1930.	1931.	<i>Decrease.</i>
I —COMMERCIAL	£	£	£
<i>Ad valorem</i>	2,991,425	1,595,527	1,395,898
Specific—other than wines, spirits, malts, cider and perry	1,569,593	986,396	583,197
Specific—wines, spirits, malts, cider and perry	591,118	183,687	407,431
Free Goods	3,059,432	1,666,487	1,392,945
2 —Government Stores ...	742,202	371,777	370,425
Total ...	8,953,770	4,803,874	4,149,896

178. The statement given below shews the percentage of the total quantity of cotton goods which were supplied by the United Kingdom in 1929, 1930, and 1931 respectively.

<i>Cotton manufactures.</i>	1929.	1930.	1931.
Bleached piece goods	97.9	96.37	95.51
Dyed piece goods	85.7	86.78	88.32
Coloured piece goods	85.8	81.00	96.30
Grey piece goods	91.0	90.90	93.01
Printed piece goods	58.9	64.52	78.00
Velveteen piece goods	56.8	49.18	55.75
Sewing cotton	93.9	79.12	86.35

179. The following statement distinguishes the principal makes of cars and lorries imported into the Gold Coast in 1931.

<i>Motor Cars.</i>				<i>Motor Lorries</i>			
<i>Make.</i>		<i>Nos.</i>		<i>Make.</i>		<i>Nos.</i>	
Morris		81		Ford		312	
Ford		46		Chevrolet		194	

<i>Motor Cars.</i>				<i>Motor Lorries.</i>			
<i>Make.</i>			<i>Nos.</i>	<i>Make.</i>			<i>Nos.</i>
Buick ...	...	...	20	Dodge ...	...	...	119
Chevrolet ...	...	...	19	Rugby ...	...	...	18
Austin ...	...	...	14	Federal ...	...	...	10
Willys Knight ...	...	...	14	Other kinds ...	...	...	27
Hillman ...	...	...	11				
Armstrong Siddeley ...	...	...	9				
Other kinds ...	...	...	76				
			<hr/>				<hr/>
Total ...			290				680
			<hr/>				<hr/>

180. Of a total importation of 970 motor cars and lorries 716 were supplied by the United States of America and only 207 by the United Kingdom.

181. Of the 290 motor cars imported, however, 188 came from the United Kingdom.

182. Of the 37 motor cycles imported 34 came from the United Kingdom, which supplied 734 of the 819 bicycles imported. 55 bicycles were imported from French Togoland, but the majority were no doubt of British origin, so that the United Kingdom still maintained its share of the import trade, unfortunately considerably depressed, in bicycles.

EXPORTS.

183. The total value of the exports for the year ended 31st December, 1931, was £9,300,620, being £1,986,768, or 18 per cent less than the value of the exports for 1930.

184. The following table shows in comparative form the value of the various classes of exports arranged in groups for the past five years.

<i>Classes.</i>	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Domestic products and manufactures (excluding bullion) ...	13,458,721	12,944,318	11,530,760	8,855,054	6,504,092
Foreign products and manufactures (excluding bullion and specie) ...	51,752	110,712	96,353	154,232	117,550
Bullion ...	727,182	648,815	869,863	1,055,634	1,069,629 (a)
Coin ...	112,720	85,030	180,740	1,222,468	1,609,349
Total ...	14,350,355	13,824,875	12,677,716	11,287,388	9,300,620

(a) Including silver bullion, valued at £48, re-exported.

185. The following table gives particulars of the principal domestic articles exported by sea and overland during the years 1930 and 1931 :—

Articles.	1930.		1931.		Difference.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Cacao	190,580	6,970,385	244,097	5,493,165	+ 53,517 — 1,477,220
Gold (raw)	272,089	1,055,634	273,514	1,089,581	+ 1,425 + 13,947
Diamonds	861,119	658,994	880,479	440,924	+ 19,360 — 218,070
Rubber	539,696	21,987	221,449	4,935	— 318,247 — 17,052
Kola nuts	8,441,311	138,322	2,952,870	38,382	— 5,488,441 — 99,940
Hides (cattle) untanned	544,704	18,132	234,548	3,986	— 310,158 — 14,146
Manganese Ore	417,490	823,396	247,191	388,963	— 170,299 — 434,433
Copra	917	15,671	1,065	12,034	+ 148 — 3,637
Palm kernels	5,470	69,018	4,035	37,204	— 1,435 — 31,814
Palm oil	489	11,392	320	4,749	— 169 — 6,643
Timber—unmanufactured	934,790	100,098	636,127	62,479	— 298,663 — 37,619
Fibre—other kinds (Sisal hemp)	287	6,802	—	—	— 287 — 6,902
Cotton lint	239,719	1,837	204,221	974	— 39,498 — 868

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

186. The following table shows in comparative form the Customs Revenue under the various heads for the years 1930 and 1931 :—

Head of Revenue.	1930.	1931.	Increase.	Decrease.
IMPORT DUTIES.	£	£	£	£
<i>Ad valorem</i>	303,136	196,364	—	106,772
Specific—other than wines, spirits, malts, cider and perry	814,182	576,810	—	237,372
Specific—wines, spirits, malts, cider and perry	742,533	218,371	—	524,162
EXPORT DUTIES.				
Cacao	222,343	284,783	62,440	—
Diamonds	31,381	20,996	—	10,385
Mahogany cedar, and baku	5,168	2,608	—	2,560
Kola nuts	—	1,065	1,065	—
MISCELLANEOUS.				
King's and Colonial Warehouse rents	2,912	2,089	—	823
Firearms, etc., Warehouse rents	428	291	—	137
Other Miscellaneous	10,434	6,004	—	4,430
LIGHT DUES... ..	8,160	6,887	—	1,273
Total gross receipts... ..	2,140,677	1,316,268	63,505	887,914
Duties drawn back, over-entered and abated	41,225	31,103	—	10,122
Total net receipts	2,099,452	1,285,165	63,505	877,792

GENERAL COURSE OF PRICES.

187. Index prices of *imported* goods were lower than they were in 1930 until near the close of the year. When England went off the Gold standard index prices began to rise, but the full effect of that rise will not be felt until 1932.

188. The prices paid for *cacao* in 1931 were the lowest recorded, the average annual f.o.b. value in 1931 being £23, as compared with £37 in 1930.

189. The f.o.b. value per lb. of *kola nuts* exported was 3½d. at the beginning of the year ; at its close the similar value was 2½d. In 1930 the average annual f.o.b. value was 4d. per lb.

190. The prices paid in 1931 for palm oil and kernels, mahogany, copra and rubber were also lower than those paid in 1930.

Index prices in 1930 and 1931.

(As declared on Customs Entries.)

IMPORTED GOODS.

Article.	1930.	1931.
Biscuits, bread and cakes :—		
Pilot or ships'	100	93
Other kinds	100	111

IMPORTED GOODS—*continued.*

<i>Article.</i>	1930.	1931.
Cotton manufactures :—		
Bleached	100	78
Dyed	100	74
Coloured	100	70
Grey	100	80
Printed	100	79
Sewing	100	88
Yarn	100	83
Fish all kinds :—		
Canned or preserved in jars or bottles ...	100	99
Dried salted, smoked or pickled not in jars or bottles	100	94
Rice	100	76
Flour (wheaten)	100	78
Matches	100	100
Meats :—		
Beef and pork, pickled or salted	100	88
Canned and bottled	100	88
Smoked or cured	100	78
Corrugated iron sheets	100	82
Milk	100	89
Salt, other kinds	100	100
Soap, other kinds	100	89
Sugar (refined)	100	82
Tobacco :—		
Unmanufactured	100	96
Cigars	100	114
Cigarettes	100	102
Wood and timber :—		
Lumber, sawn or hewn, undressed	100	95
Lumber, sawn or hewn, wholly or partly dressed	100	122
EXPORTED GOODS.		
Cacao	100	62
Raw gold	100	101
Diamonds	100	65
Rubber	100	56
Manganese	100	80
Copra	100	66
Kola nuts	100	80
Palm kernels	100	74
Palm oil	100	59
Mahogany	100	92

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE.

191. The following table shows the trend of the aggregate external *sea-borne* trade of the Colony for the last pre-war year, 1913, and 1931 respectively :—

Countries.	Import Trade per cent.		Export Trade per cent.		Aggregate Trade per cent.	
	1913.	1931.	1913.	1931.	1913.	1931.
United Kingdom ...	69.99	55.06	64.77	49.04	67.26	51.05
British West Africa ...	5.54	2.86	7.42	.75	6.53	1.38
Other Parts of British Empire ... ..	.21	1.46	—	1.43	.10	1.51
Total British Empire ...	75.74	59.38	72.19	51.22	73.89	53.94
United States of America	5.09	16.85	1.86	15.28	3.40	15.81
Germany	7.85	7.69	16.57	12.98	12.41	11.21
Holland	3.82	5.28	—	15.28	1.82	11.95
France ... ..	.94	3.39	8.39	1.43	4.84	2.09
Other foreign countries	6.56	7.41	.99	3.81	3.64	5.00
Total foreign countries ...	24.26	40.62	27.81	48.78	26.11	46.06
Grand Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

192. The import trade with all parts of the Empire represented 59.38 per cent of the total import trade and is more by 4.60 per cent than similar trade for the year 1930.

193. The share of the import trade appropriated by the United Kingdom was 55.06, or 3.75 per cent more than in 1930.

194. Imports from British West Africa were 2.86 per cent or .37 per cent more than in 1930.

195. The share of the import trade taken by Germany, Holland, and France in 1931 was less, while that of the United States of America was slightly larger.

196. The percentage share of the import and export trade taken by the United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, Holland and France respectively during the last five years was as follows :—

Year.	United Kingdom.		United States of America.		Germany.		Holland.		France.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
1927 ...	57.90	30.59	11.90	24.59	8.05	17.93	6.48	15.77	3.50	4.02
1928 ...	53.64	30.13	13.06	20.83	9.66	20.55	7.68	15.95	3.54	4.77
1929 ...	48.85	29.11	16.45	29.52	11.66	16.74	7.53	12.03	4.18	3.61
1930 ...	51.31	39.97	15.46	14.37	11.43	20.38	6.96	13.29	4.33	2.68
1931 ...	55.06	49.04	16.85	15.28	7.69	12.98	5.28	15.28	3.39	1.43

197. The following table shows the principal countries with which the external *sea-borne* trade of the Colony was carried on during 1931 together with the values of such import and export trade :—

Countries.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	2,512,260	4,477,289	6,989,549
British West Africa	130,595	68,344	188,939
Other parts of the British Empire.	66,385	130,380	206,765
Total	2,709,240	4,676,013	7,385,253
United States of America	769,008	1,395,406	2,164,414
Germany	350,828	1,184,476	1,535,304
Holland	241,067	1,394,905	1,635,971
France	154,746	130,563	285,309
Other foreign countries ...	338,015	347,447	685,493
Total foreign countries	1,853,664	4,452,827	6,306,491
Grand Total ...	4,562,904	9,128,840	13,691,744

198. The attached Tables A and B show the value of the principal articles imported at ports and of the principal articles of domestic produce exported from ports in the year ended 31st December, 1931.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

199. It will be seen from paragraph 197 that the value of the exports to the United States of America, Holland, and Germany largely exceeded the value of the imports from these countries. Only in the case of France did the value of the imports from, exceed the value of this Colony's maritime exports to, that country. It must be noted, however, that cacao valued at £114,000 was exported overland to French Togoland, which cacao, there is every reason to believe, ultimately found its way to France.

200. The value of the imports from the United Kingdom, as given in paragraph 197 includes that of coin and currency notes to the amount of £110,000, while the value of the exports includes that of coin and currency notes amounting to £1,556,000, and that of re-exports valued at £23,000. The real trade value of the maritime exports to the United Kingdom, therefore, was £2,898,000. In this connection *see* Tables A and B.

201. Of the Colony's cacao the United Kingdom took only 24 per cent, of its manganese 8 per cent, of its timber 34 per cent, of its kernels 14 per cent, and of its copra 67 per cent. The only direct steamship connection with the Dominions is the monthly service carried out by Elder Dempster and Company, Limited, between Canada and South Africa. These ships call at Gold Coast ports as inducement offers.

202. This Colony is at present debarred from participating in any Empire tariff reciprocity agreement owing to the Anglo-French Convention of 1898.

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, 1931. In Thousands of £.

Holland.		France.		Other Foreign Countries.		
Value.	Percentage.	Value	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.	
92	13.0	1	.1	16	2.3	Belgium 6.8%.
—	—	—	—	1	.5	
4	3.0	2	1.5	9	6.8	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
34	30.1	2	1.	2	1.7	
—	—	20	17.7	2	1.8	
4	3.6	1	.9	9	8.1	Czecho-Slovakia 2.7%.
11	10.9	3	3.0	—	—	Belgium 4.5%.
1	1.0	3	3.0	18	18.0	Italy 14%, Japan 2%.
1	1.1	—	—	15	16.0	Austria 1%, Switzerland 1%.
—	—	—	—	—	—	Portugal 14.9%.
5	5.6	2	2.2	5	5.6	Belgium 2.2%, Japan 2.2%.
1	1.1	2	2.3	9	10.1	Japan 9.0%.
4	4.7	—	—	—	—	
1	1.3	14	18.4	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	5	7.6	6	9.1	Czecho-Slovakia 9.1%.
5	8.1	2	3.1	—	—	
—	—	—	—	11	17.17	Belgium 16.1%.
—	—	—	—	53	91.4	Canary Islands 89.7%.
—	—	—	—	—	—	
1	1.9	1	1.9	2	3.8	Denmark 26.5%.
2	3.9	—	—	14	26.5	
1	2.1	—	—	1	1.9	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
11	25.6	2	4.5	4	9.1	Japan 6.8%.
1	2.4	2	4.7	9	20.9	Argentina 18.6%.
3	8.6	1	2.4	—	—	
—	—	1	2.8	2	5.7	Belgium 5.7%.
13	39.4	—	—	—	—	
—	—	10	30.3	1	3.0	
—	—	1	3.0	1	3.0	
4	13.3	3	10.0	2	6.7	Belgium 6.7%.
—	—	2	6.7	4	13.3	Denmark 10.0%.
1	3.6	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
1	3.9	1	3.8	1	3.9	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	4	16.0	Japan 12.0%.
—	—	4	16.7	4	16.7	Spain 16.7%.
—	—	—	—	1	4.3	
15	68.2	—	—	21	95.4	Sweden 95.4%.
—	—	—	—	—	—	
25	3.1	50	6.1	80	9.8	
241	5.5	135	3.1	307	7.0	
—	—	20	11.8	31	18.4	French Togol.
241	5.2	155	2.4	338	7.1	

TABLE B.
The Value of the principal Articles of Domestic Produce exported from Ports in the Year ended 31st December, 1931. In Thousands of £.

Domestic Produce.	Item No. of the Export List.	COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.											
		All Countries.	United Kingdom.		British West Africa.		Other parts of British Empire.		United States of America.		Germany.		
			Value. £	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.
Cacao ...	10	5,379	1,310	24.4	—	—	83	1.5	1,212	22.5	1,154.5	21.5	
Gold (raw)	6	1,070	1,070	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diamonds	14	441	441	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Manganese	36	389	32	8.2	—	—	48	12.3	139	35.7	1	.3	
Timber	59 & 60	62	21	34	—	—	—	—	41	65	.6	.9	
Palm Kernels...	43	36	5	14.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	47.3	
Kola nuts	42	35	5	1.6	67.4	—	—	—	—	—	.3	.7	
Copra ...	40	12	8	67.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8.6	
Rubber	24	5	4	71.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	23.1	
Palm oil	46	5	5	10.4	—	—	—	—	—	22.2	3	55.5	
Other articles...	—	12	6	50.2	10.3	—	—	—	.2	1.8	3	25.7	
Total exports of domestic produce including bullion	—	7,446	2,898	38.9	25	.3	131	1.8	1,393	18.7	1,181	15.9	
Re-exports :—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Coin and silver bullion	—	1,578	1,556	98.6	7	.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other articles...	—	105	23	21.9	36	34.3	—	—	3	2.9	3	2.9	
Total Re-exports	—	1,683	1,579	93.8	43	2.5	—	—	3	.2	3	.2	
Grand Total Exports	—	9,129	4,477	49.0	68	.7	131	1.5	1,396	15.3	1,184	13.0	

TABLE B.—*contd.*
The Value of the principal Articles of Domestic Produce exported from Ports in the Year ended 31st December, 1931. In Thousands of £.

Domestic Produce.	COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.					
	Holland.		France.		Other Foreign Countries.	
	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.	Value. £	Percent- age.
Cacao	1,394	25.9	48	.9	177.6	3.3
Gold (raw)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diamonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manganese	—	—	66	17.0	103	26.5
Timber	—	.1	—	—	—	—
Palm Kernels... ..	1	1.7	13	36.7	—	—
Kola nuts ... ..	.1	.3	—	.1	10.5	29.9
Copra	—	—	1	9.7	2	13.8
Rubber ... ..	.2	4.7	—	.3	—	—
Palm oil	—	—	—	—	.5	11.9
Other articles... ..	—	.1	1	8.6	.4	3.3
Total exports of domestic produce including bullion	1,395	18.7	129	1.7	294	4
Re-exports:—						
Coin and silver bullion	—	—	—	—	15	1
Other articles... ..	—	—	2	1.9	38	36.1
Total Re-exports	—	—	2	.1	53	3.2
Grand Total Exports	1,395	15.3	131	1.4	347	3.8

Denmark .3%, Belgium .7%, Sweden .3%,
Norway .4%, Italy 1.5%.

Belgium 4.1%, Norway 22.4%.

French West Africa 29.9%,
Italy 13.8%.

Italy 11.9%.

French West Africa 30.5%.
Fernando Po 3.8%.

CHAPTER VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

203. The rates of wages for manual labour vary between 8d. and 3s. a day for the unskilled labourer and from 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. for artisans and tradesmen. Higher rates are paid in certain cases to skilled craftsmen.

204. Wages in the principal occupations are approximately as follows :—

Occupations.	Average Rates of wages.	Average hours worked.
<i>Government Departments.</i>		
AGRICULTURE.		
Labourers	1s. 4d. a day ...	45 hours a week.
PUBLIC WORKS.		
Labourers	8d. to 1s. 4d. a day.	
Apprentices	1s. 6d. to 3s. a day	
Carpenters, Masons, Fitters, Blacksmiths, etc.	3s. to 5s. a day	
Artisans	6s. a day ...	48 hours a week.
RAILWAYS.		
Labourers, Cleaners, etc.	1s. 3d. to 4s. a day	
Fitters, Drivers, Machinists, Boiler- Makers, etc.	2s. 3d. to 7s. a day	
<i>Commercial.</i>		
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.		
Unskilled labour ...	£3 to £10 a year with free board and lodging.	No fixed hours.
MINES.		
Unskilled labourers	1s. to 1s. 9d. a day	48 hours a week.
Apprentices and skilled labourers ...	1s. 9d. to 10s. a day	
DOMESTIC SERVANTS.		
Cooks	£4 per month ...	Usual domestic hours.
Steward Boys ...	£3 per month	
Washermen	£1 5s.	

205. The cost of living varies considerably in different parts of the country but tends to be higher in the coastal towns. Not only do urban and rural values vary in a marked degree, but the monetary basis on which the cost of living index is ordinarily established bears in this country but little relation to the real cost of living. The only index of the cost of living is the standard of the living wage. The cost of a labourer's food in the rural areas is approximately 3d. a day, in the inland towns or large villages 6d. a day, and in Accra 9d. a day.

206. The cost of living for Europeans varies from £30 to £40 month, and may be higher, according to the standard of living, and responsibilities of the individual concerned.

207. The trade depression has resulted in a decrease in the spending power of the population generally but this in the main has caused little hardship in a country where land for farming is plentiful and the essentials of life are obtainable with the minimum of labour. The decrease in spending power has been largely set off by a decrease in the price of native foodstuffs. While it may be said that the standard of living has not been noticeably affected by the general depression, the amount of money in circulation and the buried resources of the family unit have shrunk almost below the pre-war level.

IX.—EDUCATION.

208. Education in the Gold Coast is voluntary and is mainly in the hands of Government and various missionary bodies.

209. Non-Government schools are officially recognised as of two kinds, assisted and non-assisted. An assisted school is one which has attained a certain standard of efficiency and receives a Government grant.

210. Grants are awarded on general efficiency and are calculated as a percentage of the expenditure on the salaries paid to teachers according to an approved minimum scale.

211. As education in the Colony and Ashanti has a separate Ordinance from that of the Northern Territories, a section is devoted to each. Achimota also forms the subject of a separate section.

(a) THE COLONY AND ASHANTI.

212. There are nineteen Government primary schools, fourteen in the Colony and five in Ashanti, having an enrolment of 4,301 boys and 1,299 girls with a total average attendance of 5,475. These schools are entirely supported from Government funds, and the staffs are wholly African.

213. The total number of Government teachers during 1931 was 271, of whom 237 were employed in the primary schools and 27 in the Technical and Trade Schools. One was lent to a Chief's school at Beyin and two to Achimota, whilst four were employed as visiting teachers.

214. The number of mission assisted schools in the Colony and Ashanti during 1931 was 328, and of known non-assisted schools 240. The assisted schools were distributed as follows :—

Ahmadiyya Movement	...	...	...	1
A.M.E. Zion Mission	...	...	...	7
English Church Mission	...	...	...	16
Ewe Presbyterian Church	...	...	...	74
First Century Gospel	...	...	...	1
Presbyterian Church	...	...	...	117
Roman Catholic Missions :—				
Vicariate Apostolic of the Gold Coast				23
Vicariate Apostolic of the Lower Volta				23
Seventh Day Adventist	...	...	...	1
Wesleyan Mission	...	...	...	62
Undenominational	...	...	...	3

215. In the primary schools, the subjects of instruction include speaking, reading and writing in the vernacular and English, arithmetic, singing, the duties and rights of an African citizen, drawing, nature study, hygiene, handwork, and domestic science for girls. The form which the handwork takes depends on the locality. In urban schools woodwork and simple metalwork are favoured, while in rural schools gardening, mat-weaving, basket-making, brush-making, net-making, etc., are mainly taught. In girls' schools increasing provision is made for domestic science and child welfare. The great reluctance shown by parents in certain districts towards the education of their girls is dying out, and there is an increasing demand for their education. Four new mission boarding schools for girls, each under European control, have recently been opened. At present there are sixteen schools in the Colony devoted specially to the education of girls. In addition, girls attend the ordinary primary schools and, wherever possible, receive special instruction in needlework and other domestic subjects.

216. Apart from Achimota, there are only two secondary schools in the Colony, namely Mfantipim of the Wesleyan Mission and St. Nicholas' Grammar School of the English Church Mission. Both of these schools are at Cape Coast. They are partly boarding schools and partly day schools and are always full. The curriculum is based mainly on the requirements of the Cambridge School Certificate Examination.

217. For technical education, which is entirely in the hands of the Government, there is an increasing demand. The Accra Technical School provides a three years' course (practical and theoretical) in engineering and woodwork. This is the only school of its kind in the Colony, and the demand for admission is very great. To provide a more elementary form of technical education, three junior trade schools exist. In December, 1931, there were 333 pupils in residence at these schools, of whom 155 were being trained in woodwork, 93 in masonry, 6 in agriculture, and 79 in metalwork. The time devoted to literary subjects in these schools is one-third of that spent in practical work. Especially promising pupils are given the opportunity of completing their training at the Technical School, Accra. The object of these schools is to provide a preliminary training for boys who desire to become skilled artisans, but during the course of this training the development of character and of a sense of responsibility in the individual takes a prominent place. The trade schools are in process of reorganisation.

218. For the training of male teachers there are five training colleges in which a full four years' course is given. The number of teachers in training in these colleges at the end of 1931 was as follows :—

Achimota College	...	...	...	...	172
Akropong Training College	...	...	...	...	112

St. Augustine's Training College	...	...	55
St. Nicholas' Training College	...	...	17
Wesley College	...	...	110
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	466
			<hr/>

219. At Achimota College teachers are trained for Government and undenominational schools, and for schools of the smaller missions.

220. Akropong Training College, which is controlled by the Presbyterian Church of the Gold Coast, trains teachers for Presbyterian and Ewe Presbyterian schools.

221. St. Augustine's Training College, at Amisano, trains teachers for the Roman Catholic Missioon Schools in the Colony and Ashanti.

222. St. Nicholas' Training College, at Cape Coast, trains teachers for the English Church Mission schools.

223. At Wesley College, Kumasi, the Wesley Mission trains its own teachers.

224. In addition to these, the Roman Catholic Mission (Vicariate Apostolic of the Lower Volta) opened, in 1931, St. Francis Xavier's Training College at Bla for the training of teachers who will undergo a special two years' course to fit them for teaching in rural schools which this mission intends to establish in the Trans-Volta District.

225. For the training of women teachers the Roman Catholic Mission (Vicariate Apostolic of the Gold Coast) has established is small training college at Cape Coast.

226. At all the colleges training is free, but each student, before being admitted, signs a bond to teach for at least five years in a Government or assisted school. For the teachers trained at Achimota College Government has hitherto paid all fees, but a boarding fee is to be collected in future from the students. Government also pays grants towards the upkeep of the mission training institutions. All training colleges are inspected by officers of the Education Department.

227. Games, especially association football, continue to be popular. Hockey is played regularly at some of the schools, but cricket is not so common, possibly on account of the expense of maintaining the necessary equipment; it is, however, encouraged in all Government schools. Girls are becoming keener on games. Hockey, tennis, net ball and badminton are some of the games played.

228. In addition to the activities of the Education Department and other definitely educational bodies, a number of Government Departments and the Gold Coast Regiment maintain schools to meet their special needs. In connection with the Posts and Telegraphs Department there is a technical school at which apprentices receive theoretical and practical instruction. Practically the whole of the installation of the Takoradi telephone exchange was undertaken by the school. At the Agriculture and Forestry Training Centre, Kumasi, a three years' course of training is given to prepare youths for appointment to the junior staff of the Department of Agriculture. Candidates for appointment to the Forestry Department are given a two years' course at the training centre and in their final year receive instruction in silviculture from an officer of the Forestry Department.

(b) THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

229. The separate sub-department for the control of education in the Protectorate has been absorbed, but a special Education Ordinance still applies there.

230. There are Government primary boarding schools at Tamale, Wa, Gambaga and Salaga. Except at Tamale, where there are only boarders, these schools are also attended by day scholars. The number of pupils in attendance in 1931 was 479, of whom 29 were girls. At Tamale there is a Government Junior Trade School organised on similar lines to the trade schools in the Colony and Ashanti. There were 53 pupils on the roll during the year.

231. There are four mission primary schools all of which are in receipt of Government assistance. Three of these are controlled by the White Fathers' Mission, and one by the Roman Catholic Mission (Vicariate Apostolic of the Lower Volta). The total number of pupils in attendance at these schools in 1931 was 353 of whom 107 were girls.

232. In the primary schools particular attention is paid to craftwork. During the past year there has been a noticeable improvement in the craft ability and keenness of the teachers, in the aptitude of the pupils, and in the local practical interest in the work of the schools. Ordinary school crafts are raffia work, mat-making, rope-making and rough carpentry. Sheep-skins are dressed and dyed by local processes for use in leather work of various kinds. Cotton grown on the school farm is spun and woven and made into garments of the kind worn locally. Agriculture is taught in all schools. With the approval of the sanitary authorities and the householders themselves improvements are effected in the local housing conditions. Among the 107 girls attending mission primary schools are included 70 who form a special class for instruction in lace-making and other handwork.

233. There is a veterinary school at Pong-Tamale for African students of whom at present there are sixteen under training.

(c) PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE AND SCHOOL, ACHIMOTA.

234. This institution aims at the provision of a continuous course of kindergarten, primary, secondary and university education for both boys and girls. It includes a training department for students who will become teachers.

235. The courses now available in the university section are as follows: London Arts, Science and Engineering (intermediate and degree); London First Medical Examination.

236. The numbers at the beginning of 1932 were:—

Kindergarten ...	...	...	...	...	46
Lower Primary ...	...	...	...	...	83
Upper Primary ...	...	...	...	...	111
Secondary School ...	...	...	...	...	98
Training College (boys)	...	...	...	...	126
Teacher Students (girls)	...	...	...	...	16
University ...	...	...	...	...	18
Special Course ...	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 501 <hr/>

of the above total 112 were girls.

237. On the first of April, 1931, the College came under the control of a Council, constituted as follows:—

- (a) Three members appointed annually by the Governor, such appointments being personal and by name.
- (b) Six African members (of whom one is a woman), in the first instance appointed by the Governor, but subsequent to the first six appointments, elected by the Council on the nomination of the African members;
- (c) Four members of the staff (of whom one is a woman), elected annually by a ballot of those members of the staff who have been confirmed in their appointments;
- (d) The Principal; and
- (e) The Director of Education.

BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES.

238. Both the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements are represented in the Gold Coast, and there are at present one Rover crew, 42 Scout troops, and 31 Wolf Cub packs, while there are eleven companies of Guides and nine Brownie packs. It is hoped to start Ranger companies in the near future.

CHAPTER X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

SHIPPING AND HARBOURS.

239. Communication with the United Kingdom is maintained by the vessels of the African Steamship Company and the British and African Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., who maintain a fortnightly mail service from Liverpool, calling at Takoradi and Accra.

240. In addition to the mail service there is a cargo service from Liverpool, and also from London, Hamburg, and New York. There is also occasional communication with Canada by cargo boat.

241. The length of the voyage from the United Kingdom is 13–14 days by mail boat, and from 20 to 25 days by cargo boat.

242. In addition various foreign steamship lines, among which are the Holland West Afrika Line, the Woermann Line, and the Chargeurs Reunis Line, maintain a regular passenger and freight service between the Continent and Gold Coast ports.

TAKORADI HARBOUR.

243. Work on the construction began in 1921, and on the 8th November, 1926, the first ship entered the harbour.

244. The harbour was formally opened 3rd April, 1928.

245. The inducement to construct a deep-water harbour was the elimination of the lighter, with the resultant speeding up of traffic and therefore increased capability in handling a growing and very considerable bulk of produce.

246. In the year 1930, two and a half years after the opening of the harbour and in spite of the decline in trade which had already become manifest, 371 vessels entered, with a net tonnage of 1,042,726 tons, and 326 cleared, with a tonnage of 943,081.

247. The harbour, which cost £3,133,366, is composed of two breakwaters, some 2,500 feet apart, running from the shore in an easterly direction. The area of water enclosed is approximately 220 acres.

248. The lee breakwater, which is provided with rail and road facilities, has four wharves of a total length of 1,000 feet. Two of these wharves, each with its own transit sheds and cranes, are allocated to imports. The third is for the export of manganese, and behind it is situated a dump capable of holding 25,000 tons of ore, together with a handling plant which is on the endless belt principle and can load up to 1,000 tons per hour. The fourth wharf is for coal traffic and is provided with crane facilities.

249. An open dump for bulk cargo, provided with cranes and a shed for the storage of salt, etc., is situated to the west of the coal wharf. On the outer side of the lee breakwater there is a mooring berth for vessels carrying bulk petroleum, with a 10-inch pipe line which can be connected to vessels discharging petroleum, and leads to the storage tanks $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away. There are also six mooring berths in the deep water portion of the harbour.

250. At the base of the harbour wharves are provided with road, rail, and crane facilities for lighters for the shipping of cacao and mahogany. A transit shed, and cacao sheds are situated behind these wharves.

251. The harbour has a slipway and moorings for lighters and has its own Signal Station. The Administration, Customs, Immigration Offices and a Disinfecting Station are situated within the harbour area.

252. The deficit on the year's working, after taking into consideration the interest payable on the loan, amounted to £43,645.

253. The principal working results are as follows :—

Total Capital Expenditure	...	...	...	...	£3,150,772
Gross Receipts	...	...	...	...	124,865
Working Expenditure	...	...	...	...	33,013
Net Receipts	...	...	...	...	91,852
Gross Expenditure	...	...	...	...	168,510
Deficit	...	...	...	...	43,645
Percentage of Working Expenditure to Gross Receipts					26.4
Percentage of Net Receipts to Capital Expenditure					2.92

254. Particulars of the revenue collected, the tonnage handled, and the number of vessels which entered at each port in 1931 are given hereunder :—

Port.	Revenue.	Tonnage handled.			Number of vessels which entered.
		Import.	Export.	Total.	
	£				
Accra	590,126	76,135	116,650	192,785	639
Takoradi	391,721	89,556	352,558	442,114	556
Winneba	105,909	10,685	27,981	38,666	288
Cape Coast	76,218	12,846	9,656	22,502	220
Saltpond	47,581	6,153	13,235	19,388	241
Keta	28,802	5,149	1,562	6,711	134
Ada	20,339	2,269	961	3,230	59
Axim	10,152	1,009	12,052	13,061	133
Half Assini	5,906	1,029	236	1,265	23
Parcels Post (all ports)	26,486	—	—	—	—
Total	1,303,240	204,831	534,891	739,722	—

RAILWAY.

MILEAGE OPERATED.

255. The Main line of 3' 6" gauge runs in a northerly direction from Sekondi to Kumasi in Ashanti, thence to Accra in a south-easterly direction, a total distance of 361 miles.

256. Particulars of the Branch lines are as follows :—

<i>Branch.</i>	<i>Mileage.</i>
Takoradi-Sekondi	7
Tarkwa-Prestea	19
Huni Valley-Kade	99
Accra-Weshiang	10

257. The Weshiang Branch has a 2' 6" gauge.

258. The total mileage open for traffic at the close of the financial year 1931-32 was 500.

TRAFFIC.

259. The number of passengers conveyed during the year, exclusive of Achimota workmen, was 1,004,626, a decrease of 331,863 with a corresponding decrease of £49,331 in revenue compared with the previous year.

260. The total tonnage of Goods Traffic for the year, exclusive of Live-stock, was 526,313, a decrease of 232,575 tons, with a decrease of £159,678 in revenue compared with the year 1930-31.

261. The principal commodities carried are given below:—

<i>Commodity.</i>	<i>Tons carried.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
Beer and Wine	1,369	629
Building materials	8,446	4,547
Coal and Coke	2,086	6,560
Cacao	123,488	9,011
Imported Foodstuffs	10,176	1,939
Gin and Spirits	924	148
Manganese... ..	208,767	188,128
Motor Vehicles	1,356	683
Petrol	13,964	1,385
Logs (Exported)	3,593	4,298
		<i>Increase.</i>
Firewood	96,826	666
Salt... ..	5,246	1,500
Timber, Native, not exported	3,177	1,510

LOCOMOTIVES AND ROLLING STOCK.

262. The railway has 79 locomotives including four steam rail coaches.

263. The total engine mileage (inclusive of rail coach mileage) was 1,188,088, a decrease of 259,216 miles, as compared with 1930-31 mileage.

264. Five new passenger locomotives were prepared for service and eight obsolete engines were withdrawn.

265. Three new passenger vehicles were prepared for service and 26 new 20-ton covered goods vehicles were erected.

ELECTRIC POWER.

266. In spite of the fact that 684 additional lighting, heating and power points were installed, there was a decrease in the demand for electricity and the total of B.O.T. units supplied was 1,772,328 giving a decrease of 50,638 units or 2.77 per cent compared with 1930-31.

BUILDINGS, ETC.

267. As a result of the financial depression in the Colony, capital works, renewals and new minor works have only been carried out where urgently necessary.

CAPITAL WORKS.

268. The replacement of the Cinnamon Bippo line connecting Abosso station with the Cinnamon Bippo Mines, has been effected and is now available to Traffic.

TRANSPORT SERVICE.

269. The transport Service at Sekondi and Takoradi and the Rest House at Sekondi were taken over from the Transport Department by the Railway on 1st July, 1931. The cost of working this service was £1,265 and the earnings £460.

ROADS.

ROADS AND MOTOR TRANSPORT.

270. The total mileage of motorable roads on 31st March, 1932, was 6,400 miles, and of this total 1,868 miles are in the charge of the Public Works Department.

271. The general average cost of maintenance per mile of the Public Works Department roads during 1931-32, was £63 5s., a reduction of £11 8s. per mile, or 15.7 per cent, compared with the previous year. This was due partly to a reduction in the rate of wages paid to labour, and partly to larger extraordinary expenditure during the previous two years on the reconditioning of tarmet roads.

272. Of the Public Works Department roads, 434½ miles have now been "tarmetted," this representing 23.3 per cent of the total Public Works Department mileage. These tarmetted roads are now in good order, after the recent reconditioning.

273. No new road construction was carried out during the year.

274. The Accra Town Council owns a service of motor omnibuses in Accra, and privately owned omnibuses ply between Accra and Achimota, a distance of eight miles.

275. Privately owned lorries ply for hire both as regards passengers and goods over all motorable roads in the Colony, Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

276. There are numerous ferries upon the various roads throughout the Colony, Ashanti, and in the Northern Territories.

277. A certain number of the existing ferries are leased by Government to the United Africa Company, Ltd. In cases where ferries, either operated by Government or leased to the United Africa Company, have been taken over from a local Chief, a proportion of the net receipts is paid to the former owner.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

278. The general trade depression referred to in the report for 1930-1931, continues, and there has been a further shrinkage of revenue, as compared with that year.

279. The activities of the Department continue steadily to extend, and the provision of Postal facilities at, hitherto, remote villages continues; the actual cost of such extended services being, as a general rule, borne by the Chiefs and people of the districts concerned, and involving little or no additional expense to Government.

280. The total revenue for all services was £107,537 as against £119,464 for the previous year. This figure excludes services for which no payment was made, totalling approximately £50,000.

281. The reduction of £11,927 in revenue was spread over all services excepting Savings Bank and Telephone business.

282. An increase of 3,288 Savings Bank deposits occurred, totalling £66,287 (a slight drop of £69), and a decrease of 385 withdrawals, totalling £63,644 (a large drop of £14,492). This is a very satisfactory feature in view of the acute depression prevailing. The balance standing to the credit of depositors was £94,183—an increase of £5,068.

283. Overseas parcel traffic shewed a large decrease, as was to be expected. Parcels received in the Colony totalled 71,693 as compared with 96,749 in 1930-31.

284. There were decreases in Money Order, Postal Order, and Telegraph revenue.

285. Telephone business remained almost stationary. Rentals increased by £1,239 but Trunk Call revenue decreased by £2,281.

286. The total expenditure of the Department amounted to £145,819, a decrease of £12,721, as compared with £158,540 in 1930-31. The decrease occurred principally in Personal Emoluments.

287. A new telephone exchange was installed at Takoradi to meet increasing traffic conditions and underground cables were laid at Takoradi, Cape Coast and Nsawam.

288. Eleven and a half miles of new telephone line was erected and some reconstruction work done on other routes.

289. Maintenance of lines in the Western Province, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories is a difficult proposition, owing to heavy bush, tornadoes, bush fires, etc., but the numerous interruptions were dealt with expeditiously, and communication was restored with a minimum of delay.

290. The workshops of the Department continued to serve a useful purpose, and supplied most of the technical requirements of the Department, including the maintenance of the wireless station.

291. Communication with ships has been satisfactorily maintained. The British Official Wireless Press has been regularly received. Conditions of expense have hitherto precluded the acceptance of Marconis, and Daily Mail News Bulletins.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

292. The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) have a number of branches established throughout the Gold Coast. The former bank has sixteen branches and the latter nine.

293. There are Post Office Savings Bank facilities at 73 post offices.

294. There are no Agricultural or Co-operative banks, but in the Colony and Ashanti there are 206 cocoa-producing Co-operative Societies run under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture with a total membership of 4,065. The societies have a paid-up share capital of £3,219 15s., and last year they sold 2,248 tons of cacao.

CURRENCY.

295. The following coins and currency notes are current in the Gold Coast :—

British gold and silver coin (very scarce), British Treasury Notes, and West African Currency Notes of denominations £5, £1, and 10s.

West African silver coins, of denominations 2s., 1s., 6d., and 3d., West African alloy coins of the same denominations, and nickel-bronze pence, half-pence and tenth of a penny pieces.

296. The estimated amount of nickel-bronze coin in circulation on the 31st March, 1932, was £59,414, and of alloy coin £3,915,433. The amount of British and West African silver coinage in circulation cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy. West African Currency Board notes to the value of approximately £2,000,070 were in circulation during the year under review.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

297. British standard weights are used in the Colony and Ashanti. The inspection of weights and measures throughout the Gold Coast is performed by police officers. During the year 763 weights, measures, and weighing instruments were examined, and out of this number 89 were rejected.

CHAPTER XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

298. The Department comprises civil, mechanical, electrical and public health branches and has charge of the construction, supervision and maintenance of all public buildings and roads (except chiefs' roads), waterworks, electric power stations (except Sekondi and Takoradi, controlled by the Railway), drainage etc., and carries out investigations for water supplies and development of hydraulic power.

299. The staff of the Department was reduced during the year by 77 Europeans and 71 Africans. The reduction of staff will considerably reduce the expenditure on Personal Emoluments in 1932-33, but will not produce its full effect until 1933-34.

EXTRAORDINARY WORKS.

300. Owing to the continued state of financial depression, the activities of the department were drastically curtailed, the vote of £68,865 for Extraordinary Works being largely for the completion of works which had been commenced during the previous financial year.

301. The only important works which were carried out during the year under the above head were as follows :—

- (a) Completion of the first portion of the Accra Sewerage Scheme. This scheme has resulted in a very considerable purification of the waters of the Accra Lagoon.
- (b) *Korle Lagoon Reclamation Scheme, Accra.*—The excavation of the lagoon bed, and the construction of the dwarf boundary wall behind which the excavated material is deposited were continued. This work, by reducing mosquito-breeding areas, will largely benefit the health of Accra.
- (c) The new engineering block at the Takoradi Post Office was completed.

LOAN WORKS.

302. The present state of these works is as follows :—

- (a) *Supreme Court, Accra.*—The expenditure during the year was £22,733. Good progress was made during the year although there was a certain amount of delay during the early part of the year owing to excessive rainfall.

- (b) *Kumasi Water Works*.—The service reservoir, the distribution mains, the clear water well, and two permanent bungalows have been completed. The rising main has been completed with the exception of a length of 1,300 feet. At the dam and waste weir the excavation was practically completed, and approximately half the total quantity of concrete had been placed.
- (c) *Duplication of trunk main, Accra Water Works*.—This work provides for a main of 14-inch diameter spun iron pipes from Weshiang to Accra to augment the existing 12-inch diameter main of cast iron pipes. The work of laying was commenced in November, 1931, and at the end of the year upwards of four miles of new main had been completed.

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.

- (a) *Tamale Water Supply*.—This supply was nearing completion at the end of the year.
- (b) *Cattle Immunization Scheme, Pong-Tamale*.—Completed except for the water supply.
- (c) *Cape Coast Electric Supply*.—The power-house bungalow was completed in August, 1931, and the power-house and transformer-house were almost completed by the end of the year. The laying of mains progressed well.

CHAPTER XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

303. The Law of the Colony is the Common Law, the doctrines of equity, and the statutes of general application in force in England on the 24th July, 1874, modified by a large number of local Ordinances passed since that date. The Criminal Law was codified in 1892 and the civil and criminal procedure are regulated by the Supreme Court and Criminal Procedure Ordinances, both passed in 1876.

304. The Supreme Court of the Gold Coast consists of the Chief Justice and four Puisne Judges. The Chief Justice and the Puisne Judges of Nigeria are also *ex-officio* Puisne Judges of the Gold Coast.

305. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is limited to the Colony. In Ashanti and the Northern Territories there is a Circuit Judge who presides over the sittings of the Courts of the Chief Commissioners with practically the same jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as the Judges in the Colony.

306. The West African Court of Appeal Order-in-Council came into force on the 1st March, 1930, and the first session of the Court was held at Freetown in Sierra Leone on 10th March. This Court deals with appeals from the Courts of the Colonies of the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and the Gambia; from the Chief Commissioners' Courts of Ashanti and the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast; from the Courts of the Protectorates of Sierra Leone and the Gambia; and from the Courts of the Mandated Territory of the British Sphere of Togoland.

307. There is also a Full Court, which must consist of not less than two Judges. Its functions are practically limited to suspending or striking off the roll barristers and solicitors and to deciding criminal cases stated by a Divisional Court on affirming a conviction on a case previously stated by a Police Magistrate or Commissioner.

308. The Supreme Court consists of Divisional Courts at Accra, Cape Coast and Sekondi. At Accra, there are usually three Courts sitting, over one of which the Chief Justice presides, while Puisne Judges preside over the others. Criminal Assizes are held quarterly at the above-named towns and Special Divisional Courts are occasionally held at several of the larger towns.

309. The West African (Appeal to Privy Council) Order-in-Council, 1930, prescribes the procedure and rules to be observed in appeals from the West African Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

310. The Gold Coast (Privy Council Appeals) Order-in-Council prescribes the procedure and rules to be observed in appeals from the Full Court to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

311. The Police Magistrates and Provincial and District Commissioners in charge of Provinces and Districts are *ex-officio* Commissioners of the Supreme Court. In criminal cases the first-named have the power of imposing a fine not exceeding £100 or inflicting imprisonment for a maximum period of one year. Their jurisdiction is limited to civil cases in which the amount in dispute does not exceed £300.

312. Commissioners may imprison for a term not exceeding six months or fine up to a maximum of £50 ; their civil jurisdiction is limited to cases where the amount involved does not exceed £100.

313. Appeals from the decisions of the Police Magistrates and Commissioners lie to the Divisional Court and all criminal cases tried by them are reviewed by the Judge of the appropriate Court, who has the power to reverse any of their judgments.

314. The Chief Law Officer and head of the local Bar is the Attorney-General, who is assisted by a Solicitor-General and three Crown Counsel. The Chief Justice may, subject to certain conditions, admit as barristers and solicitors of the Supreme Court any admitted barrister or advocate of Great Britain or Ireland and any person who may have been admitted as a solicitor or Writer to the Signet in any of the Courts in London, Dublin, or Edinburgh, or as a law agent in Scotland. Every barrister so admitted is entitled to practise as a solicitor as well as a barrister.

315. Barristers and solicitors are not allowed to practise before the Courts of Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

316. During the period under review, 56 cases were disposed of by the West African Court of Appeal. Two hundred and fifty-one civil actions were brought in the Divisional Courts. The total of appeals and of civil actions in the Divisional Courts is a considerable decrease over those of last year.

317. In the Superior Courts, there were 135 convictions in criminal cases thus showing an increase of four over those of the previous year. In the Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, there were 22,828 convictions being 1,492 less than those of the previous year.

318. Several volumes of Law Reports have been printed and copies are obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

319. Mr. H. G. Bushe, C.M.G., Legal Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited the Gold Coast in February, 1932.

POLICE.

320. The Gold Coast Police are responsible for the policing of the Gold Coast Colony, Ashanti, the Northern Territories and the British Mandated Area of Togoland. The headquarters of the force are at Accra with provincial headquarters at Koforidua (Eastern Province), Cape Coast (Central Province), Sekondi (Western Province), Kumasi (Ashanti) and Tamale (Northern Territories).

321. The force is composed of three branches, namely, the Escort Police, the General Police and the Marine Police.

322. The Escort Police are illiterate natives mostly of the Northern Territories and kindred tribes, and include many old soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force. This branch of the force is armed. The General Police, all of whom are literate or partially so and have had a school education, are natives of the Colony or Ashanti and are mainly employed with the keeping of criminal records, issuing licences, traffic control and other duties which cannot be carried out by illiterates; the Marine Police are recruited along the Gold Coast seaboard and are employed on water duties at the various ports in co-operation with the Customs Department.

323. A section of the force is detailed for Railway Police duties and a good band is maintained at headquarters.

324. A Police Training Dépôt is established near Accra.

325. The total establishment of the force at the end of the year under review was 38 European Officers and 1,971 African other ranks.

326. Since 1923, the Criminal Investigation Department has filed 30,705 finger-prints and this bureau includes photographs and other criminal records.

327. The following table gives the crime statistics for the last three years. It will be observed that the figures for 1931-32 show a slight decrease.

		1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Cases reported	...	24,530	24,521	24,316
Persons prosecuted	...	28,279	27,136	25,440
Persons convicted	...	23,490	22,162	20,743

328. The following are the details for the past year :—

4,277 persons were sent to prison.
 13,595 persons paid their fines.
 1,802 persons cautioned.
 430 persons bound over.
 283 persons committed to higher Courts.
 356 juveniles dealt with.

20,743

329. Police undertake all motor licensing, the registration of domestic servants and duties in connection with immigration and registration of aliens. The inspection of weights and measures is carried out by police officers.

330. The number of motor vehicles licensed during 1930, 1931, and the first quarter of 1932, is as follows :—

	<i>No. of Private Motor Cars.</i>	<i>No. of Motor Lorries, etc.</i>	<i>No. of Motor Cycles.</i>	<i>No. of Trailers.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1930	2,359	4,987	825	750	8,921
1931	2,004	5,057	722	641	8,424
1932 (First Quarter).	1,470	4,032	487	480	6,469

PRISONS.

331. The prisons of the Gold Coast consist of four central prisons and twenty-one local prisons.

CENTRAL PRISONS.

332. The central prisons are situated at Accra, Sekondi, Kumasi and Tamale and accommodate all persons sentenced to imprisonment exceeding six months. These prisons are supervised by European officers and are equipped with workshops in which the following trades are taught by trained instructors: tailoring, carpentry and cabinet making, shoemaking, cloth and mat weaving, cane furniture and basket making, masonry and laundry work. At Kumasi, Tamale and Sekondi are extensive farms which produce ground crops and vegetables. These industries, in addition to producing considerable revenue, are of reformatory value.

LOCAL PRISONS.

333. These are situated in the headquarters of the various districts and accommodate local prisoners with sentences of six months and under. The prisons are supervised by District Commissioners with African gaolers in direct control. Their chief form of labour is conservancy work, farming and various station work. Prisoners with sentences of over six months are transferred to central prisons.

JUVENILES.

334. There is an institution for juveniles at Ada under the control of the Salvation Army to which boys up to the age of 15 years are sent. They are retained to the age of 18. The boys receive educational and vocational training. Accommodation is limited to 22.

SEGREGATION.

335. It is to be regretted that owing to congestion and the fact that most prisons have only association wards, proper segregation is difficult to maintain. Recidivists wear distinctive badges and are located and work together, accommodation does not permit their location in single cells.

336. A new star class has been formed for specially industrious prisoners of good conduct. These are granted extra privileges.

337. There are female wards at Accra, Elmina, Kumasi, Tamale, Akuse and Keta. At other prisons females are temporarily housed in separate cells under special matrons. There are separate wards for debtors at Accra, Elmina and Tamale. There is a special ward for tubercular prisoners at Elmina.

HEALTH.

338. All prisons are regularly visited by Medical Officers. There are prison infirmaries at all central prisons. The weights of prisoners are recorded monthly. With the exception of two mild outbreaks of chicken-pox there have been no epidemics. The daily average on the sick list was 2.2. per cent.

339. There were 26 deaths amounting to 15 per 1,000.

POPULATION.

340. During the year the daily population averaged 1,715.94 as compared with 1,825.89 in the previous year. This large decrease may be attributed to the fact that time is now allowed for payment of fines, the formation of Native State prisons, and that the absence of work in the large centres has driven a considerable number of occasional labourers back to the land where opportunities for crime are not so frequent.

341. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable organising officers, there is no probation system or Prisoners Aid Society.

CHAPTER XIV.—LEGISLATION.

342. The Ordinances dealt with in this report include, in addition to those passed during the financial year 1931–32, those Ordinances that were enacted in the last quarter of the previous financial year, as they were not included in the last Annual Report.

GOLD COAST COLONY.

343. The following is a list of Ordinances passed during the period under review :—

1. The Loan Ordinance, 1931.
2. The Animals (Control of Importation) Ordinance, 1931.
3. The Infectious Diseases Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
4. The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, 1931.
5. The Legal Practitioners Ordinance, 1931.
6. The 1931–32 Supply Ordinance, 1931.
7. The European Officers' Pensions Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
8. The Pensions (Non-European Officers) Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
9. The Pension (Reverend Alexander Garden Fraser) Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
10. The Midwives Ordinance, 1931.
11. The Appropriation of Lapsed Personalty Ordinance, 1931.
12. The Supreme Court Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
13. The Towns Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
14. The Defence Force Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
15. The Town Councils Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
16. The Cinematographs (Poster Censorship) Ordinance, 1931.
17. The Police Force Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
18. The Land Registry Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
19. The Timber Protection (Forest Officer's Authority) Ordinance, 1931.
20. The Master and Servant (Penal Provisions Repeal) Ordinance, 1931.
21. The Geneva and Gin (Restriction of Importation) Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
22. The Interpretation (Governor in Council Definition Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.
23. The Native Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
24. The 1930–31 Final Supply Ordinance, 1931.
1. The Royal West African Frontier Force Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
2. The Mercury Ordinance, 1932.
3. The Gold Mining Products Protection (Licence Fees) Ordinance, 1932.
4. The Basel Mission Society (Restoration of Property) Ordinance, 1932.

5. The Coroner's Jury Oath Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
6. The Land (Perpetual Succession) Ordinance, 1932.
7. The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, 1932.
8. The Diseases of Animals Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
9. The Master and Servant Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
10. The Forests (Discontinuance of Grants) Ordinance, 1932.
11. The Survey Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
12. The Native Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
13. The Concessions Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
14. The Official Emoluments Levy Ordinance, 1932.
15. The Liquor Traffic (Definition of Gin Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.
16. The Pensions (Widows and Orphans) Ordinance, 1932.
17. The 1932-33 Supply Ordinance, 1932.

344. Of the above the most important are the following :—

No. 4 of 1931.—The Co-operative Societies Ordinance. This Ordinance affords for the first time statutory provision for the registration of co-operative societies, for their control and for prescribing the liabilities of their members. It is based upon the corresponding legislation of Ceylon.

No. 5 of 1931.—The Legal Practitioners Ordinance, 1931, consolidates and amends the law relating to legal practitioners and makes provision for the establishment of a disciplinary committee, with power to inquire into complaints of professional misconduct on the part of legal practitioners, and to report thereon to the Judges of the Supreme Court.

No. 10 of 1931.—The Midwives Ordinance restricts the practice of midwifery in certain towns to women registered under the Ordinance and to persons who have been engaged in practice for not less than two years prior to the commencement of the Ordinance. Registration is restricted to women holding special qualifications. The training of midwives and their control generally are placed in the hands of a Midwives Board.

No. 20 of 1931.—The Master and Servant (Penal Provisions Repeal) Ordinance, 1931, replaced certain penal provisions in the Master and Servant Ordinance which had fallen into disuse. These provisions empowered the Court in certain cases of breach of contract to fine the offender in lieu of awarding damages against him, and to order imprisonment in default of payment of the fine. In future aggrieved parties will only have recourse to the usual civil remedies.

No. 23 of 1931.—The Native Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1931, adds to the numerous amendments of the Native Administration that have been effected since the enactment of the latter measure in 1927.

No. 6 of 1932.—The Land (Perpetual Succession) Ordinance, 1932, provides for the grant by the Governor of a certificate of registration as a corporate body of the trustee or trustees appointed by any body or association of persons established for any religious, educational, literary, scientific, social or charitable purpose.

No. 7 of 1932.—The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, 1932, was enacted in consequence of the accession by the Gold Coast to the Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1927, the object of which is to secure the execution of foreign arbitral awards in the Courts of the Colony.

No. 9 of 1932.—The Master and Servant Amendment Ordinance, 1932, applies to the Colony certain International Conventions dealing with :—

- (a) the minimum age for admission of children to Industrial Employment ;
- (b) night work of young persons employed in Industry ; and
- (c) employment of women during the night.

No. 13 of 1932.—The Concessions Amendment Ordinance, 1932, adds to the previously existing conditions for the validity of a concession the further requirement that the Governor shall be satisfied that the financial circumstances of the claimant are such as to ensure that the concession will be sufficiently developed and worked.

No. 14 of 1932.—The Official Emoluments Levy Ordinance, 1932, provides for the imposition of a temporary levy upon the emoluments of Government officials.

ASHANTI.

345. The following is a list of Ordinances passed during the period under review :—

1. The Forests Ordinance, 1931.
2. The Licensed Premises (Sunday Closing) Ordinance, 1931.
3. The Boundaries Ascertainment (Repeal) Ordinance, 1931.
4. The Arbitration Ordinance, 1931.
5. The Infectious Diseases Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
6. The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, 1931.
7. The Export Duty (Kola Nuts) Ordinance, 1931.
8. The Midwives Ordinance, 1931.
9. The Kumasi Public Health Board Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
1. The Kumasi Public Health Board (Motor Licence Fees) Ordinance, 1932.
2. The Administration (Land Acquisition Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.
3. The Native Jurisdiction (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.
4. The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, 1932.

346. Of the above the most important are the following :—

No. 1 of 1931. The Forests Ordinance, 1931, which apart from minor modifications is identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance. It provides for the protection of Forests and for the constitution and protection of Forest Reserves. Under the old law the constitution of Forest Reserves depended upon bye-laws voluntarily made by the native authorities. Under the present Ordinance in the event of such bye-laws not being made when considered necessary in the public interest, or if made, not being efficiently administered, Forest Reserves may be established and maintained by the Government.

No. 4 of 1931. The Arbitration Ordinance, 1931, which apart from minor modifications, is identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance. It brings up to date the law in Ashanti on the subject of arbitration. References made under an Order of the Court are still dealt with exclusively by rules of Court, but references by consent out of Court, which were formerly regulated by the law in force in England on the 24th July, 1874, now come under the Ordinance which embodies the relevant sections of the Arbitration Act, 1889.

No. 6 of 1931. The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, 1931, which is very nearly identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance.

No. 8 of 1931. The Midwives Ordinance, 1931, which is very nearly identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance.

No. 3 of 1932.—The Native Jurisdiction (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932, introduced into the principal Ordinance a number of amendments suggested by similar provisions in the Native Administration Ordinance in force in the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 4 of 1932.—The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, 1932, with minor modifications, is identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

347. The following is a list of Ordinances passed during the period under review :—

1. The Marriage of Mohammedans Ordinance, 1931.
2. The Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
3. The Liquor Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
4. The Arbitration Ordinance, 1931.
5. The Ferries Ordinance, 1931.
6. The Administration (Land Acquisition Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.

7. The Export Duty (Kola Nuts) Ordinance, 1931.
8. The Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1931.
9. The Land and Native Rights Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
10. The Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
11. The Judicature Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
 1. The Native Tribunals Ordinance, 1932.
 2. The Native Authority Ordinance, 1932.
 3. The Land and Native Rights Amendment Ordinance, 1932.
 4. The Administration (Land Acquisition Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

348. Of the above the most important are the following :—

No. 1 of 1931.—The Marriage of Mohammedans Ordinance, 1931, which provides for registration of Marriages and Divorces among Mohammedans, and is based on the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance.

No. 4 of 1931.—The Arbitration Ordinance, 1931, which, with minor modifications, is identical with the corresponding Gold Coast Colony Ordinance.

No. 8 of 1931.—The Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1931, replaces the Land and Native Rights Ordinance of 1928, which had always been regarded as a dead letter, save in so far as it restricted the alienation of land by natives to non-natives, its replacement by a new Ordinance having been long anticipated. Whereas its predecessor declared the whole of the lands in the Protectorate to be “public lands,” in the new Ordinance these are declared to be “native lands.” They are to be under the control and subject to the disposition of the Governor, and shall be held and administered for the use and common benefit, direct or indirect, of the natives of the Protectorate. There are certain reservations in respect to titles to and interests in land acquired by non-natives prior to the commencement of the Ordinance. The occupation of lands by natives, existing at the commencement of the Ordinance, may be continued with the consent of the Governor, expressed or implied. Apart from the above, lands in the future will be held under certificates of occupancy granted by the Governor, subject to payment of rent and such other conditions as may be imposed.

No. 1 of 1932.—The Native Tribunals Ordinance, 1932. This Ordinance makes provision for the constitution of native tribunals and for the regulation of their jurisdiction. The members of such tribunals are to be appointed by the Chief Commissioner with the approval of the Governor, and the tribunals may exercise such civil and criminal jurisdiction as may be prescribed by the same authority. Native tribunals had previously functioned in the Protectorate, but their constitution and jurisdiction were indeterminate, and no adequate machinery was provided by statute for their efficient working.

No. 2 of 1932. The Native Authority Ordinance, 1932, is in a sense complementary to the Native Tribunals Ordinance, 1932. Whereas the latter Ordinance is intended to organise and develop the exercise by native authorities of judicial functions, the former Ordinance is intended to do the same for the exercise by native authorities of executive and administrative functions.

TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH MANDATE.

349. The following is a list of Ordinances passed during the period under review :—

1. The Export Duty (Kola Nuts) Ordinance, 1931.
2. The Forests Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
3. The Land and Native Rights (Non-Application) Ordinance, 1931.

GENERAL.

350. There is at present no factory legislation, or legislation relating to compensation for accidents, or legislative provision for sickness or old age. The only local industry of any importance is the mining industry. With regard to this, there is in force the Mining Health Areas Ordinance, under which regulations have been made relating to the health and housing of natives employed in connection with the mines.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

350. The net revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years were :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
		£	£
1927-28	...	4,121,523	3,618,831
1928-29	...	3,562,715	4,278,481 (a)
1929-30	...	3,337,578	3,872,275
1930-31	...	2,599,218 (b)	3,672,245
1931-32	...	2,284,299	2,823,752

351. The above figures with the exception of those for 1931-32 exclude the sums credited to the reserve fund in respect of transfers of surplus balances and interest on reserve fund investment. The revenue for 1931-32 includes £64,778 reserve fund interest and £10,656 supplementary sinking fund interest.

(a) Excludes payment of £305,000 from the reserve fund in settlement of a claim under the Enemy Property ordinance.

(b) Excludes a sum of £828,435 recovered from loan funds in respect of advances from revenue for loan works.

352. The continued trade depression was responsible for a further drop in revenue from all sources during 1931-32. The following comparative table shows the receipts during the last three years under the main heads of revenue :—

<i>Head.</i>	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
	£	£	£
Customs ...	2,489,575	1,735,198	1,473,587
Licences ...	215,901	224,047	188,823
Fees ...	216,986	235,894	227,486
Railways ...	31,724	—	—
Posts and Telegraphs	127,615	119,585	105,764
Sundry and Extraordinary ...	255,777	284,494	288,639
	3,337,578	2,599,218	2,284,299

353. Customs duties which form the main revenue of the Colony decreased from £1,735,198 in 1930-31 to £1,473,587 in 1931-32—a decrease of £261,611.

354. Other revenue for 1931-32 amounted to £810,712 as compared with £864,020 in 1930-31.

355. The expenditure for 1931-32 amounted to £2,823,752 which may be summarised as follows :—

Recurrent expenditure	£2,700,469
<i>Extraordinary Expenditure :—</i>	
Public Works Department ...	£60,469
Posts and Telegraphs ...	11,952
Other Departments ...	6,026
	<hr/>
	78,447
Colonial Development Fund ...	44,836
	<hr/>
	123,283
Total ...	<hr/>
	£2,823,752

356. Owing to trade depression the working of the Railways again showed a heavy loss of £171,790 which compared with the loss of £120,013 for 1930-31 is an increase of £51,777. There was also a loss on Takoradi Harbour amounting to £43,645. This loss was £13,573 greater than that for year 1930-31.

357. The financial position of the Colony at the 31st March, 1932, was as follows :—

Excess of assets over liabilities at	
1st April, 1931	£792,813
Revenue for 1931-32	2,284,299
	<hr/>
	3,077,112
Expenditure 1931-32	2,823,752
	<hr/>
Excess of assets over liabilities at	
31st March, 1932	£253,360

358. The Colony's reserves amounted to £2,128,855 as compared with £2,652,376 at the 31st March, 1931. The figures were as under :—

	1931-32.	1930-31.
Excess assets over liabilities ...	£253,360	£792,813
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		
Surplus assets	6,945	7,041
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	260,305	799,854
Investments only at 31st March :—		
Reserve Fund	1,301,476	1,300,334
Railway Renewals Fund ...	361,288	343,276
Supplementary (Sinking Fund)		
Reserve—not included in statement of assets and liabilities	205,786	208,255
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,128,855	£2,651,719

PUBLIC DEBT.

359. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st March, 1932, was £12,961,000 and the sinking funds together with the supplementary sinking fund (£205,786) for the amortisation of the debt amounted to £1,813,048. The amount of the public debt and the investments in respect of the sinking funds are not included in the balance sheet of the Colony.

ASSETS.

360. The Colony's assets at the 31st March, 1932, were as follows :—

Cash Balance	...	...	...	£134,583	
Joint Colonial Fund	...	...	...	195,000	
Investments	...	...	...	1,856,840	
Unallocated Stores	...	...	...	161,942	
General Advance Accounts	...	...	...	74,302	
Municipal Loan Accounts (less Loan Reserve Accounts)	...	...	...	50,109	
				<hr/>	£2,472,776

and these Assets may be said to be earmarked against the following liabilities :—

Special Funds invested	...	...	...	£1,958,473	
General Deposit Accounts	...	...	...	75,314	
Drafts and Remittances	...	...	...	206	
Loan Account	...	...	...	185,423	
				<hr/>	2,219,416
Leaving a Surplus of assets over liabilities of	...	...	...	253,360	
				<hr/>	£2,472,776

TAXATION.

361. There is no direct taxation in the Colony and the main heads of indirect taxation are :—

Customs Duties which yielded	...	...	...	£1,473,587
Light Dues which yielded	...	...	...	6,398
Licences, etc., which yielded	...	...	...	188,823

Customs duties represent 64.5 per cent of the total revenue for the year, while motor licences, spirit licences and royalties under the Concessions Ordinance account for £122,062 of the total revenue received for the year under the Head "Licences and other Internal Revenue."

CUSTOMS TARIFF (SUMMARIZED).

362. The customs tariff of the Gold Coast is contained in three schedules as follows :—

A table of import duties.

A table of exemptions.

A table of export duties.

363. The following are the chief items appearing in the table of import duties :—

Bags for the packing and transport of West African produce 2d. each.

Beer and ale, stout and porter 2s. per imperial gallon.

Spirits :—

Brandy, gin, rum, whisky, and other potable spirits ...

£1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon of 50° per centum of pure alcohol by Tralles Alcoholometer.

Obscured spirits ... £1 13s. 6d. per imperial gallon.

Perfumed spirits ... £1 15s. per imperial gallon.

Wine :—

Sparkling ... 12s. per imperial gallon.

Still ... 6s. or 9s. per imperial gallon according to strength.

Tobacco :—

Unmanufactured ... 2s. 3d. per lb.

Manufactured :—

Cigars ... 10s. per 100.

Cigarettes :—

Not exceeding 3 lbs. net per 1,000 ... 2s. 6d. per 100.

Exceeding 3 lbs. net per 1,000 ... 10s. per lb.

Other manufactured tobacco

and snuff ... 6s. per lb.

Oil :—

Illuminating ... 8d. per imperial gallon.

Lubricating ... 3d. per imperial gallon.

Motor spirit ... 10d. per imperial gallon.

Cotton manufactures ... 12½ per cent *ad valorem*.

364. All other articles not particularly enumerated in the table of import duties or particularly exempted in the table of exemptions are liable to an import duty of 20 per cent *ad valorem*. In addition, a surtax of five per cent of the rates of duty is levied in addition to the said rates on all items set out in the table of import duties, with the exception of spirits and cotton manufactures, which are exempted from such surtax.

365. The table of exemptions contains an over-riding list of articles which are exempt from import duty. This list includes *inter alia* all Government importations, machinery, printed literary matter, passengers' baggage, school apparatus, certain instruments and tools, ice chests and refrigerators, uniforms, coin and currency notes, medicines, roofing materials, patterns and samples, vehicles, fresh provisions imported in ships' refrigerators and mosquito nets.

366. In the table of export duties appear the following items :—

Cacao	...	...	...	£1 3s. 4d. per ton.
Diamonds	...	...	...	5 per cent <i>ad valorem</i> .
Mahogany, cedar and baku				1d. per cubic foot.

367. All other articles, whether domestic products or re-exports, are exempt from export duty.

EXCISE AND STAMP DUTIES.

368. No excise fees are payable in the Colony, while stamp duties under Cap. 154 are payable on such documents as are usually so taxed in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. The revenue receivable from this source ranges from £8,000 to £10,000 per annum.

HUT TAX OR POLL TAX.

369. Neither Hut tax nor Poll tax is levied in the Colony.

CHAPTER XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

369. Field work during the year included the detailed geological mapping of (a) the Birim Diamond field and the surrounding country; (b) portions of the Akwapim and Volta River Districts from near Aburi to the Volta River between Ajena and Akuse; (c) the Akropong gold belt (Ankobra District); (d) the country between Abetifi, Otokpe and the Afram River, and (e) the district west and south-west of Tarkwa and Prestea. Investigations of the underground workings of the Abbontiakoon, Cinnamon Bippo, and Kotraverchy mines were undertaken at the request of mining companies, and a special study was made of the water supplies of the Akwapim hills and Shai plains.

370. Good prospects of reef and alluvial gold were obtained at many places between Nkunsia, north of Prestea, and the Ofin River west of Dunkwa. For a distance of 20 miles along the motor-road from Ayanfuri to Akropong there are extensive old workings on quartz reefs which appear to be connected with the fissure in which occur the auriferous reefs near Obuasi. The type of the mineralisation, its persistence, and the encouraging prospects of gold obtained from the reefs lead one to believe that there is scope for the development of new mines in this belt.

371. Good gold prospects were obtained from reefs near Akokoaso and Kwae and from river gravels near Fureso and Mirekro west of Prestea, the Atewa range south-west of Kibi, and in the vicinity of the Birim River south-west of Anyinam.

372. The majority of the numerous occurrences of alluvial gold in the Gold Coast are too small in extent and/or of too low a grade to justify the installation of expensive machinery to work them, yet, although many of them could be profitably worked at the present time by native methods, there is little indication that this potential source of wealth is being utilised to any appreciable extent.

373. The limits of the Birim Diamond field were approximately fixed and much information, which should be of value to the mining companies operating in this area, was obtained regarding the distribution and origin of the diamonds. Diamonds were found in 30 streams, not under concession, in the Western Akim and Birim Districts, where their existence was not known previously to the Geological Survey.

374. Elsewhere, isolated diamonds were found in streams north-east of the Ofin-Pra confluence, and to the south-west of Prestea,

375. The prospecting done by the mining companies in the vicinity of the motor-road from Simpa to Tarkwa indicates that the diamondiferous deposits of this district are of too low a grade to be profitably worked at the present time and prospecting has been discontinued.

376. A large deposit of limestone of good quality was discovered near the Pawmpawm River, four miles south-east of the motor-road at Anyaboni. A sample of the limestone was analysed by the Imperial Institute who report that the limestone would be suitable, if finely ground, for agricultural purposes, and if burnt under suitable conditions it might also yield a feebly hydraulic lime. Apart from the dolomitic marble near Labadi the Anyaboni limestone is situated closer to Accra than any of the other known deposits.

377. Samples of the limestones from near Takinta and Nawuli, Axim District, were also analysed by the Imperial Institute and found to be suitable, if finely ground or burnt, for agricultural purposes.

378. Manganese ores of poor to average quality were discovered near Bansa, Axim District, and at Nkwantapong and Pemenase, east of Lake Bosumtwi.

379. The following conclusions were reached regarding water supplies in the Akwapim and Volta River Districts :—

- (a) Deforestation of the Akwapim hills is one of the chief causes of water shortage.
- (b) Every possible means should be adopted to conserve rain water for use during the dry season.
- (c) In certain localities increased supplies could be obtained by sinking wells to greater depths (30–70 feet).
- (d) On the plains south-east of the Dodowa–Kpong road important supplies could probably be obtained by boring to depths of less than 200 feet.
- (e) Certain valleys in the Akwapim hills appear to be suitable for impounding water.

LANDS DEPARTMENT.

380. The cardinal principle adopted by Government in framing its land policy is that all land other than that alienated belongs to the native ; if no owner can be found the ownership is assumed to be vested in the native community.

381. The alienation to individuals or companies of land for mining, agricultural or arboricultural purposes is subject, in most cases, to the Concessions Ordinance which restricts the estate which can be held to a maximum term of 99 years and empowers the

Court to impose such conditions and restrictions upon the tenants as it may deem desirable in the interests of the native owners. A further restriction is placed by the Concessions Ordinance upon the total area which may be held by any one concession holder.

382. Government has power under the existing law to acquire compulsorily, subject to the payment of compensation, such land as is required for public purposes.

383. In the Northern Territories recent legislation has in the Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1931, defined the respective rights and obligations of the Government and of the native, preserving as far as possible the existing native customary law in its relation to the use and occupation of the land, but placing restrictions upon the alienation of land by natives to non-natives.

384. Town-planning, in the strict application of the term, does not prevail although legislation provides for it. In the towns of Takoradi and Kumasi, the sites of which are the property of Government, provisions are made to restrict the user of the land and to ensure the erection of substantial buildings upon it.

385. A substitute for town-planning has been found in the provision, as conditions warrant, of layouts by agreement with the local chiefs or landowners, which has been effective in ensuring the correct development of many towns both large and small. Extensive layouts of Stool lands adjacent to Accra have recently been effected and in these cases the allocation of any vacant plots remains under the control of the Chiefs. In towns where development is anticipated, agreements are made with the local Chiefs whereby such development shall proceed only on orderly lines and in accordance with the layout as designed. Arrangements are concluded at the same time to enable Government to acquire free of claims for compensation the land required for roads and for such other sites as are required for public purposes. A plan of the layout superimposed upon a survey of the town affected is attached to the agreement which thus defines clearly and finally the position and enables the orderly development of the town to take place without undue expenditure. Repeated requests are received for the layout of towns and villages to which no layout scheme has as yet been applied.

386. Building regulations are in force, some of general application and others of particular application to certain towns.

387. A system of deed registration is in force throughout the Colony and Ashanti but registration of title has not yet been introduced.

388. The Government owns little land in the Colony as may be seen from the accompanying table.

				<i>Area owned by Government.</i>	
				<i>Total Area.</i>	<i>Sq. miles</i>
				<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles</i>
Gold Coast Colony	...	...	...	23,937	52½
Ashanti	...	...	...	24,379	28½
Northern Territories	...	...	...	30,486	31
Total				78,802	112
Mandated Territory of Togoland				13,041	4.5

389. The Lands Department, which has charge of all dealings with Government land, has its headquarters at Accra with branch offices at Takoradi and Kumasi.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

390. Although the year has been one of curtailment of activities no branch of the department has been completely closed down but each has continued to function with a reduced personnel.

391. The production of field sheets and standard sheets of the Topographical Map, and town plans, constitutes the more important part of the work of the printing branch. Heavy demands from other departments for sketches and diagrams to illustrate Reports, Sessional Papers, etc., in addition to the purely departmental work has again kept this branch working at high pressure. Numerous charts and graphs printed in colours, giving at a glance information on a variety of subjects such as Cacao Exports, Trade Returns, Unification of Native States in that part of Togoland under British Mandate, etc., have been prepared. Of exceptional interest this year are maps prepared for the Census Report.

392. In the Cadastral branch the chief work has been the survey of acquisitions and the layout of towns. Township development has been particularly noticeable in Ashanti where layout design and demarcation has been carried out in eight towns. The layout of the extensive township of Tamale was also completed and the necessary preliminary town survey of Salaga commenced. Town surveys of Tamale, Takoradi, Beyin, Atuabo, Esiama, Akim-Swedru and Abodom were also completed during the year.

393. The Framework section completed the eastern chain of triangulation closing on the Krachi base and also reconnoitred and partly observed a western chain extending northwards from Kumasi and closing on a base 10 miles long at Lura which was measured in February, 1932. The primary traverse Krachi-Atebubu-Ejura which connects these two chains of triangulation was also completed during the year.

394. The Topographical branch, much reduced in strength, has proceeded with the revision of the one-inch map in the Central and Eastern Provinces and has relieved the Cadastral branch of the boundary survey of Chiremoasi, Nyamibe Bepo, Bosumtwi Range, Wawahi and Esukawkaw Forest Reserves.

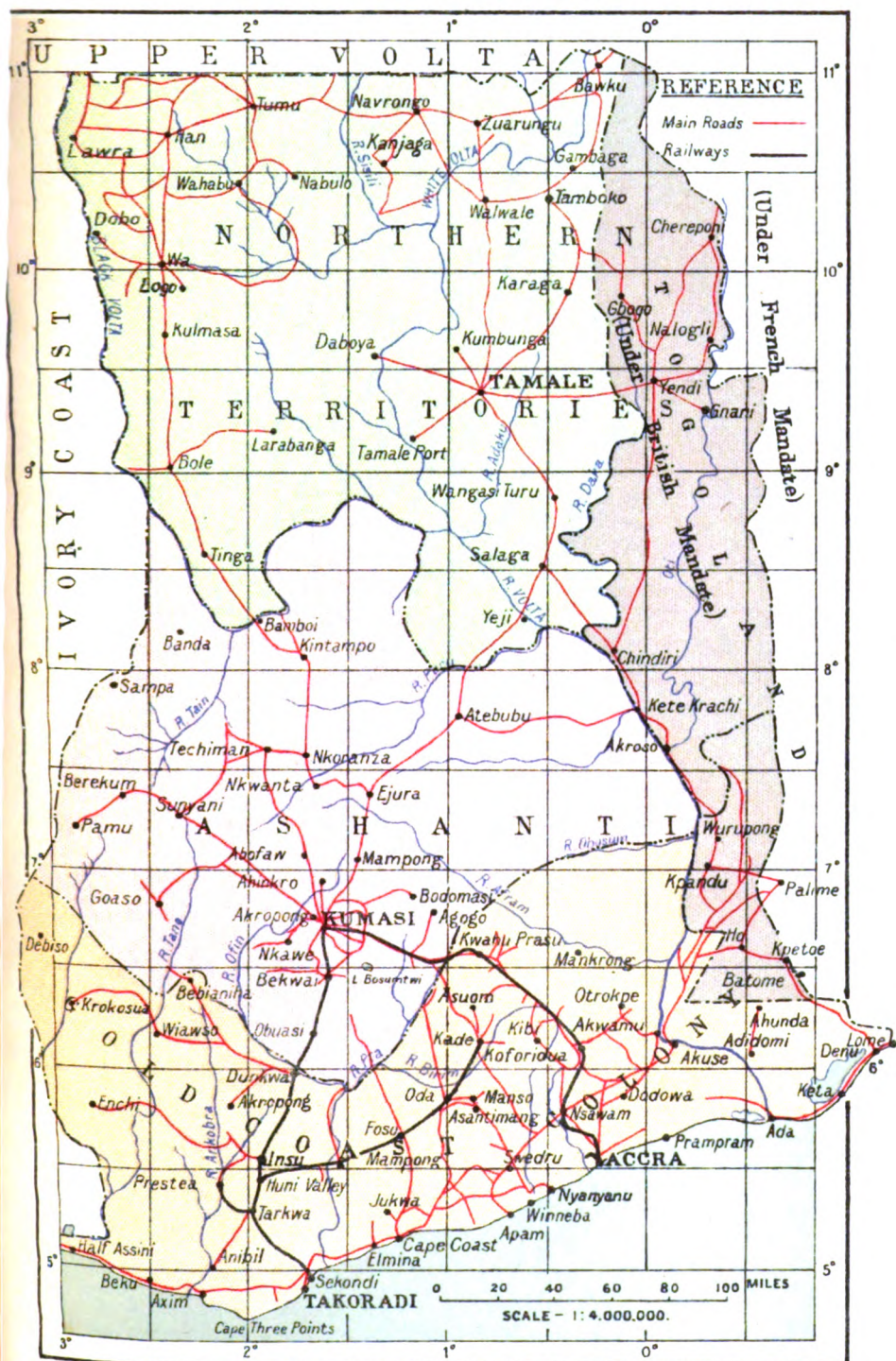
395. Unfortunately it was necessary to retrench twenty-one Pupil Surveyors ; eleven of these had successfully completed their course of training, the others were second year pupils. The first refresher course was held at the Survey School from October 1st, 1931 to March 31st, 1932 ; eight African Surveyors were withdrawn from the field to take this course.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

ACCRA.

27-8-32.

THE GOLD COAST



SURVEY H. Q. ACCRA 1932.

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.		9d. (10d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)		1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)		1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.)		1s. (1s. 5d.).
Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery.		2s. (2s. 2d.).
Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth.		£1 1s. (£1 1s. 9d.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927-30. (E.M.B. 46.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings.		2s. 6d. (2s. 11d.).
Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.)		1s. (1s. 1d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49.)		1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.)		1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.)		1s. (1s. 3d.).
Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.)		1s. (1s. 3d.).
Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.)		1s. (1s. 4d.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.)		1s. (1s. 3d.).
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No. 1603



Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of

JAMAICA, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1509 and 1550 respectively.
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA.

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JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Social and Economic Progress of the People
of Jamaica for the year 1931.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

1. Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean Sea, situated between 17° 43' and 18° 32' N. latitude and 76° 11' and 78° 20' 50" W. longitude. It is the largest island of the British West Indies, its extreme length being 144 miles, greatest width 49 miles, and least width 21½ miles.

2. The Island is divided into three counties and fourteen parishes, viz.:—

<u>Surrey.</u>	<u>Middlesex.</u>	<u>Cornwall.</u>
Sq. Miles.	Sq. Miles.	Sq. Miles.
Kingston .. 7¾	St. Catherine 498	St. Elizabeth 473½
St. Andrew .. 183	St. Mary 251	Trelawny 353
St. Thomas .. 298½	Clarendon 487	St. James 239½
Portland .. 338	St. Ann 487	Hanover 177
	Manchester 337	Westmoreland 320
Total .. 827¼	2,060	1,563

comprising a total area of 4,540¼ square miles, or 2,848,160 acres, of which approximately 646 square miles, or 413,440 acres, are flat and consist of alluvium, marl and swamps. The population was ascertained by census in 1921 to be 858,118 or 189 per square mile. The Island is therefore more populous in proportion to its size than, for instance, France which has only 187 persons to the square mile. The Colony and its Dependencies (consisting of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Morant Cays and the Pedro Cays) comprise a little more than a third of the area, and contain nearly half the population of the British West Indies.

3. A great diversity of climate is obtainable, the temperature varying according to the season from 80° to 86° on the sea-coast to as low as 40° at the tops of the highest mountains. The dryness of the atmosphere renders the climate of the Jamaica uplands particularly delightful and suited to the most delicate constitutions. Through the county of Surrey, and partly through Middlesex, runs a central mountain chain trending generally in an east and west direction, the highest point of which, Blue Mountain Peak, attains an altitude of 7,388 feet. This is the highest elevation in the British West Indies. From the central range, subordinate ridges or spurs run to the north and south coasts of the Island; these are the parents of smaller ridges, which branch off in every direction with considerable regularity and method until the whole surface of the country is cut up into a series of ridges and intervening valleys.

4. Numerous rivers and streams suggest the origin of Jamaica's aboriginal Arawak name "Xaymaca," which is supposed to imply an overflowing abundance of rivers. Most of the streams have a rapid fall and are not, to any extent, navigable.

5. Jamaica has many mineral springs, some of which possess valuable properties for the cure of various diseases and infirmities. The two principal are the spring at Bath, in the parish of St. Thomas, and that at Milk River, in the parish of Clarendon. Both these springs are radioactive, the latter in a very marked degree.

6. Jamaica possesses several harbours, the largest and most important being that of Kingston, the capital, one of the finest natural harbours in the world. This harbour has a total area of some 16 square miles, of which approximately 7 square miles have a depth of from 7 to 10 fathoms.

7. Jamaica was discovered by Columbus on the 3rd of May, 1494. He called it St. Jago, after the Patron Saint of Spain, but the new name was soon dropped in favour of the native one of Jamaica (Xaymaca—well watered). The first settlement on it was effected on the shores of St. Ann's Bay, by Esquivel in 1509, under the direction of Diego, the son of Columbus, while Governor of Hispaniola.

8. Although invaded by Sir Anthony Shirley in 1596, and by Colonel Jackson in 1643, Jamaica remained in the possession of Spaniards for 161 years when it was again attacked by a force sent by Cromwell under Admiral Penn and General Venables, against Hispaniola, and capitulated, after a trifling resistance, on the 11th of May, 1655. Until the Restoration, Jamaica remained under military jurisdiction, but in 1661, a regular civil government was established by Charles II, who appointed General Edward D'Oyley, Governor-in-Chief with an Elective Council. In 1670 peace was made with Spain, and the title of England to Jamaica was recognised by the Treaty of Madrid. The colony grew fast, stimulated by the wealth brought into it by the buccaneers, who made Port Royal their headquarters and storehouse. This town was engulfed in the great earthquake of 1692. Kingston then consisted of a few sheds and St. Jago de la Vega (Spanish Town) became practically the capital. During the 18th century, the Island suffered from hurricanes, earthquakes, numerous slave insurrections as well as wars with maroons, or mountaineers, the descendants of African slaves left by the Spaniards, who lived mainly in the east of the Island, among the Blue Mountains. When the Slave Trade was abolished in 1807,

there were 319,351 slaves in Jamaica. During the last eight years of the trade, 86,821 slaves were imported. On the abolition of slavery in 1833, Jamaica received £5,853,975 of the £20,000,000 granted by the Imperial Government as compensation to the slave owners. A serious rebellion among the black population in 1865, was suppressed by Governor Eyre.

9. In January, 1907, Kingston was devastated by a terrible earthquake which caused great loss of life and immense destruction of property. A Mansion House Fund was opened and contributions poured in from all parts of the Empire for the relief of distress. A free grant of £150,000 was voted by Parliament, and a loan of £800,000, chiefly in aid of the re-building was authorized from the Home Exchequer.

10. English is the only language spoken in Jamaica. Traces of the Spanish occupation still remain in the names of many places, such as Rio Grande, Ocho Rios, St. Jago de la Vega, &c., &c., and here and there a name of obviously African origin, such as Accompong, is to be found.

11. There are many purely local words such as "quattie" to describe the sum of 1½d., "buckra" to describe a white man, and "busha" to describe the manager of a plantation, and it takes a new comer to Jamaica some time to grasp what is being said to him especially in the remoter country districts.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

12. The original Constitution granted by Charles II, which after existing for over 200 years, was surrendered in 1865, was a representative one, consisting of a Governor, Nominated Council, and Elected Assembly, which on its first meeting in 1661 consisted of 20 members, but fluctuated in numbers from time to time. The depression caused by the abolition of slavery led to a grave constitutional crisis, the Assembly refusing to vote supplies and endeavouring to enforce sweeping reductions in establishments, without compensation to the displaced officers. Lord Melbourne's Government, 1839, actually introduced a Bill into Parliament for the suspension of the Constitution but was defeated and it was not till 1854 that, by a change in the Constitution of the Council, harmony was temporarily restored.

13. After the suppression of the rebellion in 1865, Governor Eyre, at the meeting of the Legislature, urged the unsuitability of the then existing form of Government to meet the circumstances of the community, and the necessity of making some sweeping change by which a strong Government might be created. The Legislature willingly responded, abrogated all the existing machinery of legislation, and left it to Her Majesty's Government to substitute any other form of Government which might be better suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony.

14. By Orders in Council of the 11th June, 1866, and 11th November, 1869, a Legislative Council was established, consisting of such numbers of official and unofficial members as Her Majesty might think fit. The numbers of each were six until 1878, when they were enlarged to eight, and a ninth was added in 1881.

15. By Order in Council, dated 19th May, 1884, and Amending Order of 3rd October, 1895, the Constitution was fixed in the following manner:

The Council to consist of the Governor (with only a casting vote) five ex-officio members, viz.: the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Director of Public Works and Collector General: such other persons, not exceeding ten in number, as Her Majesty may from time to time appoint or as the Governor may from time to time provisionally appoint, and fourteen persons to be elected as therein provided; the Council to be dissolved at the end of five years from the last preceding General Election, if it shall not have been previously dissolved.

16. There is also a Privy Council, with the usual powers and functions of an executive council. It consists of the Lieutenant-Governor (if any), the Senior Military Officer in command, the Colonial Secretary, Attorney General and such other persons as may be named by the King, or provisionally appointed by the Governor, subject to the approval of His Majesty, the number of members not to exceed eight. The Governor presides at each meeting and the Governor and two members form a quorum.

17. The first registration under Law 22 of 1886, the Franchise Enlargement Law, was in August, 1887. At the General Election of Members to serve in the Legislative Council which was held in 1925, the number of voters on the list was 54,103. There were ten contested elections, the total number of votes cast being 15,359.

18. A Corporation of the amalgamated parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew, with a Mayor, Council and Corporate Officers, was set up in 1924. The Corporation acts through the Council which exercises all powers vested in the Corporation or the Council. The Council consists of the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors. The Councillors, eight in number, are elected, 4 for the Urban District, 2 for the Sub-Urban and 2 for the Rural. The Aldermen 2 in number, are elected by the Council from Voters holding qualifications necessary to entitle them to be elected as Councillors. No person holding the office of Councillor is qualified for election as an Alderman. In addition to the above, the Elected Members of the Legislative Council for Kingston and St. Andrew and the Custodes of Kingston and St. Andrew are ex-officio members of the Council. In the 13 other parishes there are Elective Boards with jurisdiction over secondary roads, markets, sanitation, poor relief, water works and pounds. The chief towns are Kingston (including Port Royal) (population in 1921, 63,711), Spanish Town (population, 8,694), Port Antonio (population, 6,272), Montego Bay (population, 6,580), Falmouth (population, 2,136), Port Maria (population, 2,481) and Savanna-la-Mar (population, 3,442).

19. The parish is the unit of local government, and each parish has its own institutions, managed by the Parochial Board, the members of which are elected by the persons entitled to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Council. The administration of poor relief by the Parochial Boards is controlled by a Board of Supervision. The total number of registered poor in 1931 was 9,215 being at the rate of 9.1 per thousand of population. Pauper Relief cost 1/7 per head of population.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

20. There was a noticeable decrease in emigration and a considerable increase in immigration during 1931. The departures in 1929 were 3,337, in 1930, 1,980 and in 1931, 1,842. The arrivals in 1929 were 5,231, in 1930, 6,761 and in 1931, 11,565.

21. The estimated population of Jamaica at the close of the year 1931 was 1,050,667, this figure being arrived at by taking the estimated population on 31st December, 1930, adding thereto the births and arrivals and deducting therefrom the deaths and departures during the year ended 31st December, 1931. The last census was held in 1921.

22. The number of marriages registered during 1931 was 3,604, the rate being 3.4 per 1,000 of population as compared with 4.1 for 1930. During the same period 36,173 births were registered of which 18,344 were boys and 17,829 were girls. The birth rate works out to 34.8 per 1,000 as against 37.0 during 1930.

23. The number of deaths registered was 19,377 of which 9,704 were males and 9,673 females, the death rate being 18.6 per 1,000. The rate for 1930 was 17.0. During 1931, 6,966 or 35.9 per cent. of the total deaths were those of children under two years of age and of these 5,566 or 28.7 per cent were those of children under one year of age. The corresponding figures for 1930 were 37.7 per cent and 30.7 per cent. The total infantile death rate under one year was 15.3 per cent. as compared with 14.1 in 1930.

24. The principal causes of death per 100 of total deaths among the inhabitants of Kingston were:—

Diarrhoea and Enteritis 7.83, Congenital Debility 8.64, Tuberculosis 12.12, Typhoid Fever 4.58, Pneumonia 6.72, Heart Disease 7.77, Syphilis 1.91, Cerebral Haemorrhage Apoplexy 2.84, Old Age 5.74, Fever (not otherwise defined) 1.91, Chronic Nephritis (including unspecified 10 years of age and over) 2.61, Acute Nephritis (including unspecified under 10 years of age) 175, Bronchitis 2.43, Cancer other malignant Tumours 2.43.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

25. The year 1931 is likely to be remembered for the excessive rainfall in many parts of the Island and for the effects in the Colony of the world-wide depression in trade. The rainfall resulted in an increase of Malaria in many places notably in Trelawny where it became a serious epidemic. There was, however, no increase in those areas in which the Malaria Commission was engaged in anti-malarial work. There was also an increase in Yaws which is always far more prevalent in wet districts. In other respects the general health of the Colony was good during the year.

26. The financial situation called for the utmost economy and the much needed additions and improvements to many of the Public Hospitals

had to be deferred. The very conditions which made these economies so necessary also caused an increased demand on the services of the Department. Many people who, in times of prosperity, can afford to consult private practitioners are unable to do so in times of depression and so increase the numbers seeking aid at the Government Institutions.

27. *Vital Statistics.*—There has been a steady decrease in the death rate of the Colony during the past ten years. In 1921 it was 28 per thousand. In 1930 it had fallen to 17 per thousand which was the lowest that had ever been recorded. Conditions in 1931 were in several respects so unfavourable that an increase was expected. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the rate only increased to 18 per thousand which was the rate in 1929 and at that time was the lowest on record.

28. The infantile mortality is recorded as the number of infants who die before attaining the age of 1 year for every 1,000 births. The rate for 1930 was 141, the lowest on record. In 1931 the figure went up to 153 but this is lower than the 1929 rate which was 160. The mortality rate for children under 5 years of age has also increased slightly from 193 to 214.

29. The birth rate for 1931 was 34 per thousand. The excess of births over deaths for the year was therefore 16 per thousand. In other words, the population increased during the year by about 16,000 as the population is now slightly over one million.

PRINCIPAL DISEASE GROUPS.

30. *Enteric Fevers.*—900 cases were notified under the Public Health Act. The number in 1930 was 928. 244 cases were treated in Kingston General Hospital and 383 in the District Hospitals; these numbers in 1930 were 264 and 370 respectively.

31. The notification of this disease is, I think, carried out more thoroughly now than in previous years due, to a great extent, to the activities of the whole-time Medical Officers of Health in many of the parishes. Although these figures do not show any appreciable change on the previous year yet almost every District Medical Officer reports that there was less Enteric Fever than usual during the year.

32. *Malaria.*—224 cases with 5 deaths were treated in Kingston General Hospital. In the District Hospitals 2,437 cases were treated with 114 deaths. These figures are much higher than in 1930 and most of the District Medical Officers report an increase but those stationed in areas where control work is carried out report no increase or a continued diminution both in numbers of cases and severity of attack.

33. *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*—67 cases were treated in Kingston General Hospital and 98 cases in the District Hospitals. The numbers in 1930 were 68 and 87 respectively.

34. The reports of District Medical Officers on the prevalence and spread of the disease vary greatly. Many report that cases are rare and that there does not appear to be any increase. Others report that the disease appears to be increasing. There is no doubt that the public are taking a great interest in the subject and are to some extent learning that early diagnosis and rational treatment offer good prospect of arrest or cure. That the hopeless, fatalistic outlook is giving way to a more intelligent view as is well shewn in a brief report of the Tuberculosis Commission included in this Chapter.

1,327 cases were notified under the Public Health Act as compared with 1,082 in 1930.

35. *Venereal Diseases*.—The reports of District Medical Officers do not, on the whole, indicate any increase in these diseases. Many still emphasize the ignorance displayed and the delay in getting treatment until complications have arisen. The neglect to continue treatment until cure of the disease, and not merely cure of the symptoms, is completed, is very common. 394 cases of Syphilis and 351 cases of Gonococcal Infection were treated as in-patients at Kingston Hospital. In the District Hospitals the numbers were 654 in-patients for syphilitic infections and 678 in-patients for Gonococcal Infections.

36. *Yaws*.—27,398 cases were treated during the year. The drugs used were Bismuth Sodium Tartrate, Neo and Sulph-arsphenamine, and Halarsol. Very promising results have been obtained with this last preparation which is convenient to use in district work.

37. *Small-pox*.—The Colony remained free from Small-pox throughout the year. Vaccinations were performed.

38. *Scarlet Fever*.—157 cases of this disease were notified during the year. Most of these were in the early months of the year only 28 being reported after 30th June. The type of the disease is very mild and there can be little doubt that many cases are never seen by a medical man. This renders control a very difficult matter.

HOSPITALS.

39. The following is a list of the Hospitals and Institutions of the Medical Department:—

	No. of Beds.
Public Hospital, Kingston	380
Maternity Hospital, Kingston	30
Public Lunatic Asylum, Kingston	1,747
Public General Hospital, Morant Bay	30
“ “ “ Hordley	40
“ “ “ Port Antonio	55
“ “ “ Buff Bay	50
“ “ “ Annotto Bay	60
“ “ “ Port Maria	65
“ “ “ St. Ann's Bay	40
“ “ “ Cave Valley	12
“ “ “ Ulster Spring	6
“ “ “ Falmouth	25
“ “ “ Montego Bay	70
“ “ “ Lucea	20
“ “ “ Savanna-la-Mar	66
“ “ “ Black River	70
“ “ “ Mandeville	35
“ “ “ Lionel Town	50
“ “ “ Chapelton	33
“ “ “ Spanish Town	70
“ “ “ Linstead	60
Lepers' Home, Spanish Town	120

40. The work of the Kingston General Hospital continues to increase. 6,005 cases were treated with 537 deaths. There were over 132,000 attendances at the Out-patient Department. 2,996 operations were performed on in-patients. The number of minor operations in the Out-patient Department was 3,298.

41. In the X-Ray Department 1,352 patients attended.

42. The work of the District Hospitals has increased a great deal in recent years. The equipment has in many cases been improved but much remains to be done both in building and equipment to bring some hospitals up to the standard of modern requirements. A great deal of good medical and surgical work is done in some of the District Hospitals and the Matrons and Nursing Staffs are deserving of praise.

13,089 patients were treated on the wards with 886 deaths. The attendances at the Out-patient Departments number over 42,000.

43. The surgical work consisted of 3,325 operations of importance and 1,502 minor operations. Among the operations carried out at District Hospitals are included 47 Salpingectomies, 25 Hysterectomies and 177 Appendicectomies.

PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

44. *Jamaica Hookworm Commission.*—Two units of sanitation were conducted during 1931 in areas in the parishes of Trelawny, St. James and Westmoreland. In Trelawny, 1,462 homes were sanitated, the population being 10,603. In St. James 5,727 homes were sanitated, housing a population of 28,372. In Westmoreland 535 homes had completed their latrines at the end of the year, while 1,014 had latrines under construction; the population being 9,247. The total number of homes sanitated during the year was 9,291, representing a population of 50,560 people.

45. Two units of treatment campaign were also conducted, one in the parish of Manchester and the other in St. Thomas. A total of 24,004 people were examined out of a population of 24,008. Of those examined 16,712 were infected with Hookworm and 15,439 were treated, while 15,025 were cured. Public Health education was conducted during the treatment campaign there being 85 lectures given to an estimated total audience of about 17,865.

46. *School Hygiene and Dental Clinics.*—Dental Clinics were conducted in seven parishes: St. Andrew, Kingston, St. Mary, Trelawny, Clarendon, Hanover and St. James. During the year 149 schools were visited and 36,426 treatments were given to 13,979 pupils.

47. *Bureau of Health Education.*—The Bureau of Health Education continued as a clearing house for all of the units of co-operative work. Volume 6 of "Jamaica Public Health" was published during 1931, reaching a monthly circulation of 20,000 copies. The bulletin is used in the elementary schools of the island as a text in hygiene and its mailing list includes health workers in all parts of the world. The division of pre-natal work was continued. A revised edition of the nine pre-natal letters was issued and 4,203 letters were sent to 467 expectant mothers.

48. *School for Sanitary Inspectors.*—No session of the school for sanitary inspectors was held during 1931 since Parochial Boards already have trained inspectors for their more important districts. The next session will be held during the Autumn of 1932. The School has played

an important part in the development of public health in Jamaica and during the past five years part-time officers have been largely replaced by full-time inspectors. Also it may be mentioned the average pay received by sanitary inspectors is now more than double what it was five years ago.

49. *The Malaria Commission*—Efforts against Malaria in Jamaica during 1931 may be divided into two sections, first the maintenance of control by larvacidal agents in eight endemic centres, and second, measures against epidemic malaria in two large centres.

50. It will be recalled that the Malaria Commission has attempted to combat the disease in the areas where Malaria was proved to be highly endemic in the island-wide survey conducted in 1927-28. Excessive rainfall throughout the entire island during 1931 is the outstanding difference, from a malaria standpoint, that has been present in this year as compared to previous years during which the Commission has been at work. The average rainfall based on observations of over fifty years is 76.46 inches, during 1931, an average of 91 inches of rain fell over the island. Control measures have been largely limited to the distribution of Paris Green over water collections known to be breeding anopheline mosquitoes. A brief resumé of the results in each area is appended.

51. *Golden Grove*—Malignant malaria has been endemic in this section for many years. Control operations were begun in July, 1930. The area comprises about ten square miles and has a population of 2,100. In the survey of March, 1928 the blood rate in children was 31.5 per cent. and the spleen rate 26 per cent. In 1931 re-survey shows a blood rate of 8 per cent. and a very low fever incidence.

52. *Caymanas*—Control measures were started here in July, 1929. The spleen index was 14 per cent. and the blood index 17.5 per cent. In 1931 the spleen rate was 7 per cent. and the blood index 13 per cent. In this area a rather constant turnover of labour is one of the factors mitigating against more complete reduction of the disease.

53. *Vere*—This is a large area, roughly 15 miles in length and 9 in width, with a population of 3,000 people. In January, 1930, after a long dry period, the blood rate was 35 per cent. In 1931 the spleen rate had risen to 20.4 per cent. but the blood rate was perceptibly lower.

54. *Black River*—This area was known to be one of the most highly endemic centres of malaria in Jamaica. In January, 1929, the spleen rate was 41.3 per cent. and the blood rate 13.8 per cent. Short radius work was begun in May, 1931. The large swamps that surround the town were disregarded by necessity. What is considered one of the most amazing reductions in malaria that has ever followed an anti-larval campaign over a short period of time in Jamaica has occurred here. Mosquito and larvae catches have been greatly reduced and no case of fever was reported during the third quarter. The spleen index in 1928 was 41.3 per cent. and the blood index 13.8. The spleen index in 1931 (at the end of the year) was 5.3 per cent. and the blood index 4 per cent.

55. *Montego Bay*—Control work in and around the town was begun in June, 1930. The population affected is about 9,000 and the area 12 square miles. Sledging out of rock holes in an area of 170 acres and the routine application of Paris Green as well as the straightening and aligning of some drainage ditches have been the

methods employed. The spleen rate in 1928 was 6 per cent. and the blood rate 12.43 per cent. The spleen index in 1931 was 1 per cent. and the blood rate considerably lower.

56. *Oracabessa*—In this district control work was begun in February, 1930. The chief problem encountered was the breeding of anopheline mosquitoes in rock holes. These were done away with by cracking out the sides with sledges. Paris Green is regularly employed along a river which has previously contributed many anopheles to the vicinity. The blood rate in 1928 was 10 per cent. and in 1931 only 3 per cent.

57. *Annotto Bay*—This is the largest single undertaking that the Malaria Commission has carried out. During 1930, one mile of permanent subsoil drainage was laid out at the edge of the town. A total of 138,520 square yards of water surface have been dusted monthly during the entire period. The spleen index in 1928 was 46.6 and in 1931—8.76 per cent. The blood index dropped from 21 per cent. in 1928 to 5 per cent. in 1931.

58. In general it may be stated that the use of Paris Green as a larvicide has been attended with exceptional success in Jamaica. So little of the anopheline breeding territory can be drained within economical feasible limits that by necessity one is forced to revert to regular applications of larvicide. Much of the success of the work has been due to the careful observation made by the Medical Officer in charge and it is apparent that malaria control can be carried out at a cost within the means of the Government by the present personnel. It is easily seen that the work has become very popular and it is gratifying to note the response on the part of the population in the various areas under control.

59. *Epidemic Malaria*—Extensive rainfall is responsible for a severe outbreak of malaria in the Falmouth district where malaria had previously been a matter of very minor importance. Heavy rains, increased swamping of land in and around Falmouth and uncommon dilution of previously salt water pools were responsible for the enormous increase of *Anopheles albimanus* in the vicinity. Cases of malaria occurred in practically every house in the town of Falmouth and in an area within seven miles around the town. More than 3,800 cases were reported and about 120 deaths occurred. Treatment of cases was begun on July 22, and the epidemic was under good control by November. Paris Green distribution in the swamps near the town and opening up canals to the sea were the measures employed.

60. *Red Hills*—The Red Hills form the north-western boundary of the Liguanea Plain about 7 miles from Kingston. Epidemic malaria broke out in this vicinity at the end of July. 262 cases were treated in August and 67 in September. The epidemic had ceased by October.

61. *Resumé*—The striking fact about malaria control in Jamaica seems to be that despite unusually heavy rainfall the control areas where operations had been carried on for over eight months showed a decrease in malaria when compared to previous years. 1931 was the exception to prove the rule and it is apparent that measures now in force are sufficient to cope with any situation which may arise.

62. *Tuberculosis Commission*—The Tuberculosis Dispensary in Kingston was highly successful during 1931. It was visited by 2,275 persons who were examined for Tuberculosis, also, there were, 4,556

visits from old patients and 1,573 persons who had been in contact with patients, also came for tuberculin tests. A total of 3,290 sputum examinations were made. Of the 2,275 persons examined, 147 were found to have the disease while 1,551 did not, and 77 examinations have not yet been completed. The nurses made visits to the homes of 6,035 patients during the year.

63. As a result of the interest created by the Dispensary the parishes of St. James, St. Ann and St. Mary have built special wards at their Poor Houses. The Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation have just completed tuberculosis wards at their Poor House. Dispensaries have also been established in St. Catherine, St. James, Trelawny, St. Mary, St. Andrew, Clarendon and Portland parishes.

64. During the year an X-ray Laboratory was established in connection with the Dispensary which greatly facilitated the complete examination and earlier diagnosis of the disease. During 1931, 4,489 roentgenological examinations were made, of these 2,467 were patients referred from the Dispensary.

65. As a result of the successful work accomplished by the Dispensary it was decided to widen the scope of the study being made of tuberculosis by a survey to ascertain more facts regarding the disease as it exists in Jamaica and in the tropics. This survey was begun on August 10th in a section of Smith Village containing about 1,700 people. Educational work was conducted and the people were brought to the X-ray Laboratory where they were given tuberculin tests and X-ray examinations. Up to the end of the year 1,286 or 78.6 per cent. of the population of Smith Village had been examined. These came from 492 households among which there were 85 containing tuberculous members—18 of active disease and 103 of a latent disease. The results thus far show an incidence rate of 1.4 per cent. active disease and 8 per cent. latent disease. Among the 18 positive cases, 5 have already been found to be sputum positive.

66. Survey of operations were also extended to Hannah Town before the end of the year and 224 individuals were examined representing 87 households among which 17 were found to contain members having tuberculosis. There were 11 cases of latent disease and 6 of active.

67. The incidence rate for active disease was 2.6 per cent and for latent disease 4.9 per cent. but only one of the six active cases has been found to be sputum positive.

68. Survey work was also carried out in Falmouth through the Trelawny Parochial Health Department; this work commenced September 1st. The pupils of the Falmouth and other schools have been given tuberculin tests; a total of 855 children being tested. A portable X-ray machine was operated in Montego Bay, 22 miles from Falmouth and is used as an aid to diagnosis of doubtful cases. Up to the end of the year 453 patients were examined and 5 re-examinations were made. Visits were made to 81 homes and a total of 731 persons were given tuberculin tests, while 84 X-ray examinations were made. The cost of the Tuberculosis Commission is borne by the Rockefeller Foundation except the drugs which are supplied by the Government.

69. *Parochial Health Departments*—Growing out of the work started by the Hookworm Campaign health education was brought to all parts

of the Colony and has led to the inauguration of the various units of health activities. The latest and most advanced unit is that of Parochial Health Departments. On April 1st, 1930, as a result of the approval by the Legislative Council, a plan of Parochial Health Departments was inaugurated. This plan provides for a full-time Health Officer with a staff and equipment for each parish and up to the end of 1931 twelve of the fourteen parishes of the island had accepted the plan. The Health Officer, it may be stated, is selected and paid by the Central Government. To assist in demonstrating the practicability of such Health Departments the Rockefeller Foundation co-operated with Government and the Parochial Boards in the organisation of demonstration departments in St. Mary, Trelawny and St. Catherine. The Health Officers chosen for these Departments were given special training on Foundation Fellowships. The first Department was opened in St. Mary in October, 1928, the second in Trelawny in November, 1929, and the third in St. Catherine, December, 1930. The demonstration in each parish is to continue for three to four years the object being to find the most effective methods of conducting health work in a Jamaica parish. The staff consists of the full-time Health Officer, an office clerk, a chief sanitary inspector and from 4 to 8 assistants. The first work undertaken by each department has been the control of infections. Prevention of typhoid is the most important item under this head and after this is the provision of sanitation and the installation of latrines which will control hookworm, dysentery and other bowel complaints. Public health education is conducted through lectures and demonstrations. School medical inspection is also given attention and treatment is provided for pupils with hookworm disease and dental defects, these being the common handicaps of school children. Correct records were kept of the work done in each parish and monthly reports made to the Local and Central Boards of Health.

70. *St. Mary Health Department*—In addition to the routine work this Department supervises the malaria control measures in the Oracabessa area. Tuberculosis and typhoid were the only infectious diseases of importance and these were met by the vaccination of contacts and the establishment of local dispensaries. A local laboratory is maintained and specimens of blood, sputum and faeces are examined. During 1930 special attention was paid to the improvements of water supplies. The sanitary inspectors made 42,913 inspections and caused 224 nuisances to be abated while 3,220 latrines were made sanitary.

71. *Trelawny Health Department*—During more than half of the year this Department was engaged in work connected with the malaria epidemic in Falmouth. The staff in addition to their routine work, assisted in the treatment of the sick and in control measures. During the year they caused 1,991 homes to be sanitated and made 28,584 inspections and abated 642 nuisances. Special attention was given to the examination of food handlers and markets. This Department demonstrated the great value of such an organisation in coping with an epidemic and has merited the approval given to it by the Parochial Board and the people of the parish.

72. *St. Catherine Health Department*—This Department conducted the usual routine work laying stress upon health education and the control of epidemics. Investigations were made of all cases of typhoid,

whooping cough, diphtheria and scarlet fever. The Health Officer gave 10,246 injections of anti-typhoid vaccine to 4,072 persons. Tuberculosis dispensaries were held in Spanish Town and Linstead and 85 cases of the disease located. Child hygiene work was begun in August and there is a nurse connected with the Department who gives half of her time to tuberculosis work and the remainder to child hygiene work. The 10 sanitary inspectors made 65,441 inspections and 5,441 latrines were made sanitary. There were 72 public lectures given during the year to an estimated audience of about 7,000.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

73. The housing accommodation of the wage-earning population varies greatly in different parts of the colony. In rural areas many of the houses are built by the owners with little skilled assistance. Rough stone is sometimes used in areas in which it is readily available. Other forms of construction are timber framing filled in with clay or covered with thatch, or old discarded timber. Thatch and corrugated iron are chiefly used for roofing, but wood shingles are used in the better type of houses. Those who are able to afford it, have their houses built of imported lumber, with doors and glass window frames.

74. Water supply is either from a shallow well or from a stream if there is one in the vicinity. In some of the country parts where rainfall is low and droughts are not unusual, Parochial Boards have built large concrete catchment areas with reserve tanks from which people can obtain supplies at a small cost. In many rural districts many small houses have tanks of their own, the construction of which is frequently financed from loans made to them by the Parochial Board of their parish. Parochial Boards being empowered by Law to make loans from the General Fund of the parish to enable private individuals to establish private water supplies at their homes. As a result of the hardships frequently experienced through lack of water by the inhabitants of areas subject to periodical drought, a Law was passed in 1928, Law 25 of 1928, to empower the Government to assist Parochial Boards by way of loans or grants or both to establish or to effect improvements to public water supplies in dry districts. The scheme has worked most successfully and in many districts a reserve supply of water has been established and the inhabitants in time of drought are no longer forced to go long distances to rivers or streams to obtain supplies of water for domestic purposes.

75. The provision of a sanitary latrine for each house is the aim of the Hookworm Commission which has been at work in the Colony for the past 11 years. The Commission has two Sanitation Units and 2 Treatment Units always at work. The method is to select certain areas in a parish for demonstration purposes and to bring about the construction of sanitary latrines in these areas, and when this is completed to examine all the residents of this area for Hookworm Disease, and treat until cured, those who are infected. When these Demonstration areas have been dealt with, the Hookworm Commission passes on to another parish, and the completion of the work throughout the parish and its maintenance is left to the local Board of Health. The work of the Commission will come to an end in the course of the

next 2 or 3 years, when Demonstration Areas in each of the fourteen parishes will have been completed.

76. On the whole the housing accommodation in rural areas is fairly good, and is improving, taking into account the economic conditions of the great majority of the inhabitants. The faults are chiefly inadequate and impure water supplies and poor ventilation, especially at night, owing to the habit of closing up all windows and doors. Rents in the country are not, on the whole, unreasonable.

77. Housing conditions in the towns are not nearly so good as in the rural areas. The houses of the poor people and those rented to the poor people, are of a bad construction and far too close together. Overcrowding at nights is very bad. There are many yards where all the space except a very small central area, is entirely occupied by shacks of the poorest construction and there may be only one insanitary latrine for the use of many houses, while the water supply for the whole yard consists of one standpipe in the centre. In Kingston especially high rents are paid for this poor accommodation. Ten shillings a month is often charged in the crowded areas of Kingston for each room 9' x 9' in a row, such rooms all made chiefly from old packing cases or other still more unsuitable material.

78. The underlying cause of these thoroughly bad buildings and exorbitant rents is the old trouble of Slum Landlordism; the land is let and sub-let, the houses are let and sub-let, so that possibly no one individual is making a scandalously high profit, but many individuals are all taking their share and doing little working for it. The "Grass Yard" area, south of the Spanish Town Road, and east of the May Pen Cemetery, is possibly the worst of Kingston slums.

79. The Public Health Law 18 of 1925 and its Bye-laws provide for:—

1. The licensing of hotels and lodging-houses. Lodging houses are required to provide 300 cubic feet of space for adults and one-half that amount for children under 12. There are regulations with regard to sanitary arrangements, water supplies, and details of construction.
2. Health Officers can take action in regard to overcrowding in any building either by tenants or permanent occupiers.
3. Health Officers are required to examine building plans.
4. Barracks have to be constructed and maintained in accordance with regulations.
5. The following are included in the list of nuisances under the Law:—
 - (a) Any latrine of any type which is injurious or dangerous to health, or likely to become so.
 - (b) Any yard or enclosure overgrown with vegetable matter.
 - (c) Any tree, bush or building which interferes with the entrance of sunlight or with free ventilation of any neighbouring premises.
 - (d) Any building with inadequate water supply.
 - (e) Any collection of water which may become a nuisance or injurious to health in any way, including the breeding of mosquitoes.

80. Buildings may not be erected on filled areas until they have become or have been made innocuous. Local Boards can serve notices on tenants or owners of buildings which are dangerous to public health and can require their improvement or demolition.

81. Owing to economic conditions, and also to the general standard of education of the poorer classes, these Laws and Regulations have to be enforced gradually and with discretion by the Health Officers and the Sanitary Inspectors. Education of the people on sanitary matters is going on steadily, and great interest is taken by the more enlightened ones. The vital statistics of the Colony point to a steady improvement in living conditions generally. The death rate was 28.3 per 1,000 in 1921. It had fallen to 17 per 1,000 in 1930 which is the lowest yet recorded. The infantile mortality has fallen over the same period, from 197 to 141.

82. Thriving Building Societies exist in Kingston and in the parishes of St. Thomas, St. Mary, St. Ann, Trelawny, St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland, and St. Elizabeth. Those in St. Ann, St. James and Westmoreland were established as far back as the year 1874. They perform the usual functions of Building Societies in other countries and through their instrumentality many persons with small incomes have been enabled to acquire homes.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

83. The year 1931 was remarkable for its liberal and well distributed rainfall, whereby crops of all sorts flourished and large yields were obtained from every kind of cultivated crop all over the island. The rainfall for Jamaica was 91.5 inches or 15 inches above the average of the previous 50 years. Although threatened repeatedly with hurricanes in the season of tropical storms, Jamaica fortunately escaped calamitous losses by wind and the agricultural record for the year was indeed a fortunate one.

84. This advantage, however, was offset by the rapid shrinkage of World Markets and the failure of credits, followed by the collapse of Sterling as a medium of exchange. Practically every article of tropical produce had been encouraged to greater output by the good prices ruling for the past 15 years. Suddenly the world demand for these products shrank away and producers found themselves faced with enormous stocks of produce which were unable to find a market, even at ruinous prices.

85. It is really due to the Banana Industry that Jamaica has not experienced an even more drastic depression in trade than has been the case in 1931. Historians of the Colony in future days will doubtless indicate that during the world trade crisis, Jamaica was saved through the miracle of a co-operative fruit Association that had actually emerged as a live and successful business effort whereby the Colony was enabled to entrench its premier industry and to hold its head above the floods of the world-wide trade crisis.

86. *Bananas*—The exports for 1931 amounted to 22,287,242 stems as against 24,585,505 for the previous year or a reduction of 2,296,263

stems. Prices in North America, particularly in the United States, were very unsatisfactory and, at times, bananas were practically given away by the various Fruit Companies owing to the lack of demand. On the other hand, England and Rotterdam afforded reasonably good markets so as to enable the standard price of 2/- per count bunch to be more than realised by the Co-operative Association. The new fruit ship of the Association proved itself a fast and economical transporter of bananas to England and to Europe and it is due to the success of this vessel that the "Producers" have been able to satisfy their clients as to the minimum price to be paid for bananas before profits are shared.

87. The battle with Panama Disease has been faithfully carried on by a staff of 19 Inspectors. A great economic advantage in the cost of treating the disease has resulted from the experiments recently carried out by the Microbiologist whereby it has been found that certain grades of fuel oil are most effective for killing banana plants *in situ* without the cost of digging out and burning the plant material. It is estimated that a reduction of about 50 per cent. in the cost of treating a case of Panama Disease has thus been effected.

88. The Banana Breeding work continues to progress. A large number of quite good seedling bananas, immune to Panama Disease, have been produced. Each time the plants ratoon the fingers get longer and the bunches larger. Several bunches of the seedling bananas were, in fact, sold and accepted by the Trade as Jamaica Bananas in 1931, showing that the seedlings have already approximated to the desired standard. The next crop of seedlings of the second generation is awaited with great interest and among these may be a fruit suitable for the new conditions. The appointment of a Geneticist to assist in the work of banana breeding in Jamaica should be of great assistance in guiding our future efforts into the most profitable channels. Thanks are due to the Imperial Government for a free grant from the Colonial Development Fund which has provided the necessary funds for equipping the new Laboratories of the Agricultural Chemist and the Geneticist.

89. *Sugar*—The remarkably continuous rainfall of 1931 resulted in the production of a heavy tonnage of canes in the field, but these, in many cases, failed to ripen and there was a considerable lowering in the Sucrose content of the juice. Thus many factories were forced to grind a good deal more cane than usual in order to produce a ton of sugar. The general result of these conditions was a reduction in the export of sugar from 70,200 tons in 1930 to 64,560 tons in 1931.

90. The rum market was also in difficulties, some estates finding themselves with a three years' crop of rum still unsold. The rum exported in 1931 amounted to 4,083 puncheons as against 6,500 puncheons in the previous year. These conditions, however, have been met in a heroic manner by the passing of the "Rum Restriction Law" whereby an equality of sacrifice in the production of rum for the coming crop has been imposed on all estates by legal compulsion. It is thus hoped that the trend of trade will enable the unsold rum from previous crops to be assimilated in the markets of the world, while a reasonable and fair allocation of the useful but limited local market for rum has been provided for all the producers alike. Despite the grave difficulties which all sugar producers in the world are now facing, the Jamaica Sugar Planters have put up a splendid fight. Cultivation has not been

neglected but has in fact, been improved. New canes giving larger yields have replaced the old varieties and in 1932, the largest crop of sugar produced in Jamaica during the past 50 years is confidently expected.

91. The Barbados cane "BH 10 (12)" is now established as the standard cane for average conditions in Jamaica. This cane possesses many excellent qualities and is without doubt the best West Indian cane introduced into Jamaica during the past forty years. On inferior lands in Vere a cane of similar parentage known as "S.C.12/4" is giving wonderful results both as plants and ratoons. The Hawaiian cane "E.K. 28" has done well in some of the best soils of Vere but is not generally suitable for cultivation in Jamaica. The immune Java cane "P.O.J. 2725" is rapidly replacing "Uba." It gives a fine tonnage but suffers from the disadvantage of early arrowing and requires special treatment in planting and reaping to give the best results. The "wonder cane" of Java "P.O.J. 2878," has been widely distributed throughout all the sugar lands of the Colony and is now under estate trial. It shows great promise and is a cane of noble appearance but it is susceptible to wind storms and appears rather soft for hard conditions. There is reason to believe that in favourable areas in Jamaica it will produce large yields of sugar and become of commercial importance.

92. *Coconuts*—A good crop of nuts resulted from favourable seasons. The exports were nearly 35 million nuts or 4 million more than in the previous year. On the other hand the export of Copra fell from 300 tons to 180 tons (approximately). Owing to trade difficulties and the severe competition of whale oil the foreign markets for Copra were gravely affected. The reflex action of this state of trade has resulted in the practical organisation of the Coconut Co-operative Association whereby the local markets for soap and edible oils should now be provided for by the produce of our own coconuts. The local soap made from pure coconut oil is a complete success. The factory finds a ready sale for its soap and is making a profit at a time when most manufacturers of soap are finding it difficult to cover their cost of production. The by-product in the form of Coconut Cake is proving very useful to dairymen and poultry keepers.

93. *Logwood*—This product remains in a somewhat stagnant condition. The manufactured extract has remained at last year's very moderate standard. The demands for wood were slightly better and for the first three-quarters of the year the values of logwood exported were recorded as £43,000 compared with £34,000 for 1930.

94. *Coffee*—The high-grade Blue Mountain Coffee has kept its trade and maintained its high price. The ordinary and lower qualities of Jamaica Coffee have suffered through the gigantic over-production of Brazil which is reported to have coffee for the whole world for three years stored in one port alone.

95. *Cocoa* has been a drug in the market; the quantity exported was 2,660 tons as against 3,000 tons (approximately) in the previous year, while the financial returns have been very poor indeed, less than £17 per ton on the average. This ruinous state of the Cocoa market which has been chiefly brought about by excessive production in West Africa, is so unpromising that very little interest is now being taken in this staple in Jamaica. As the larger producers are reducing their

acreage of cocoa while many small settlers leave their cocoa trees neglected, it is to be expected that the production of cocoa in Jamaica will soon dwindle to quite small dimensions.

96. *Ginger*—The exports of ginger fell by 250 tons to 867 tons which were valued at an average price of 28/- per 100 lbs. At present bananas offer a better prospect for the small growers than ginger and it is likely that the output of the latter will now be reduced. This reduction of crop should eventually lead to some improvement in the price, for Jamaica ginger is unrivalled for real ginger quality and flavour. Unfortunately, the market is strictly limited and no drop in price has any appreciable effect on the consumption of this article.

97. *Citrus Fruits*—Until the close of the year the trade in citrus fruits was most disappointing. Markets were poor and the heavy autumnal rains rendered the fruit liable to rot in transit. Heavy losses were incurred by shippers particularly in the month of October from this cause. The Citrus Producers' Association obtained the services of the Microbiologist to investigate the matter and a large scale test of various methods of treatment was carried out at the Central Packing House. These researches proved that the gassing of the fruit with Ethylene gas increased the loss by 'Stem-rot' by 300 per cent. and confirmed the complaints of shippers that the compulsory gassing of their fruit was resulting in serious losses of fruit by rotting. By using small, repeated doses of gas and removing the button or attachment of the stalk after such treatment citrus fruits were found to suffer very small losses from this cause in comparison with heavily gassed fruit in which the infected stalk was permitted to remain.

98. Recently, both in the English and Canadian markets there has been a strong revival of trade and by the preferences granted to our fruit by the Imperial and the Canadian governments, Jamaica is now placed in a position to take up citrus production with some confidence.

99. The exports of grapefruit remained practically the same as last year, just under 100,000 boxes. The large distribution of grapefruit plants to small cultivators which has been made in the last few years by the Hope Nursery will enable a large quantity of this fruit to be produced by small settlers in a few years' time.

100. The exports of orange oil in 1931 amounted to 63,000 lbs., an increase of 16,000 lbs. over the previous year.

101. *Honey* remained steady at about the same standard as last year, viz.: 132,550 gallons. Prices have fallen, as might be expected. This product will amply repay the formation of a Co-operative Association whereby the honey can be graded and marketed to the best advantage.

102. The honey produced in Jamaica varies greatly in colour and flavour. That produced from Logwood is of the highest quality and capable of holding its own with the fine honeys from New Zealand and elsewhere. A new Demonstration Apiary was established at the West End of the island during the year by the Agricultural Society who received a special grant for the purpose.

103. *Pimento*—The year was favourable for the production of pimento so that the exports stand at over 5,300 tons as compared with 4,200 tons for 1930. The price, however, fell to a very low standard and many producers found that there was a very small margin left over

the cost of production. The trouble with pimento is that the world does not require as much as Jamaica produces in an average year and it is only in years of scarcity that the price is satisfactory. If the island could reduce its output to one half of the production of 1931, a far more satisfactory trade would result.

101. Pimento leaf-oil has been depressed and it is difficult for the producers to meet the present low standard of price.

105. *Tobacco*.—The Cigar Trade has felt the effects of the general trade depression so that the exports are less than in 1930 both in quality and value. The local cigarette trade has benefited from recent tariff changes but unfortunately this has not helped the local growers of tobacco as the cigarettes are mainly manufactured from imported leaf.

106. The native industry of "rope-tobacco" continues to flourish and this crop affords a useful outlet for the people in the dry areas of St. Elizabeth who find this a remunerative business.

107. *Sisal Hemp*.—The world markets for fibre have been so poor that it has not been possible in Jamaica to produce sisal fibre at the price obtainable abroad. Fortunately the local rope market, with some assistance from scientific tariff, has enabled a fair proportion of the local fibre to be utilised at a profit. The native sisal rope is found to be excellent and has almost displaced the imported article in the smaller sizes which are generally used for roping donkeys and drays and on cattle pens.

108. *Livestock*.—Except for a few sporadic cases of Anthrax which were speedily suppressed by vaccination methods, the year has been free from any dangerous diseases of stock. In certain parts of the island losses of cattle arise from the presence of "nightshade" (*Eurechites suberecta*) in the pastures. When this poisonous plant has been killed down in cleaning pastures it dries and is then frequently eaten by the stock.

109. Efforts have been made to seek an export market and the visit of Mr. R. E. Montgomery, R.M.C.V.S. Adviser on Animal Health to the Colonial Office, was helpful in directing the minds of the pen-keepers in Jamaica to the possibility of selling fat cattle to Trinidad and possibly the Bahamas. There are difficulties in the way but if Trinidad would help this Colony as we have been doing in the case of her oil products it should be practicable for the superior beef cattle of Jamaica to be sold to mutual benefit in the sister colony. The dairy industry is growing steadily. During the past 20 years the 500 bulls distributed from the Government Stock Farm at Hope have played a great part in improving the cattle of the Colony and there are large numbers of cows all over the island capable of commercial exploitation for dairy purposes if the requisite business organisation were established.

110. The influence of the "Sanhiwal" or Montgomery breed of Zebu cattle from India has been found to be truly remarkable. Composite animals containing $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ of this Indian blood have been found superior to all the pure-bred dairy cattle tested at Hope Farm. Hardy, productive cows suitable for outdoor life in the tropics have thus been produced at Hope which give excellent yields of rich milk. As a result of 23 years of concentrated effort the finances of the Government Stock Farm at Hope are in a satisfactory state, showing a gain of £15,832 19s. 2d. in Assets and a net gain of £12,460 in the capital value of the Hope Estate which was purchased as a public property for £5,422 in 1911.

111. *Agricultural Education*—The Government Farm School has been reorganised in accordance with the recommendation of the Special Committee as approved by the Legislative Council. The new Headmaster arrived in July and has been actively engaged in reorganising the curriculum and internal affairs of the Farm School. The new branch at "Grove Place" in Manchester has been given an excellent start and the new venture is proving a practical success. The students are gaining valuable practical experience during their 6-week periods at "Grove Place," while the new Experiment Station and Plant Nursery will doubtless be helpful to the people in the vicinity. The old estate buildings at "Grove Place" were converted, at a very moderate cost, into commodious and airy quarters by the Public Works Department. The Colony now possesses in its Farm School an institution admirably suited, equipped and staffed for training young men on sound and practical lines so as to promote the success of the agricultural industries which are suitable for local conditions in Jamaica.

112. *Land Settlements*.—*Spring Garden Estate* in the parish of St. Thomas, containing 746 acres which was acquired in 1923 for land settlement, has been sub-divided into 236 lots and sold on terms of payment spread over a period of five years. This property has now been sold off.

113. *Kellets*—A property of 5,065 acres in the parish of Clarendon, having about 650 tenants, was acquired on 1st July, 1929, for a land settlement. About 1,100 acres are considered unsuitable for settlement and it is proposed to reserve this area as forest. Two rivers and several streams pass through the property and the margins of these are to be reserved for water conservation and to prevent pollution. The ruins of the old hospital and sugar works which have a certain amount of historic value, are also being reserved. At a point where the main roads radiate in four directions, about 50 acres have been laid out into a small township, special portions being reserved for public purposes. About 10 miles of bridle roads were constructed through the property preparatory to its being cut up into lots. At the end of 1931, 2,240 acres had been cut into 473 holdings and sold, and sales are continuing.

114. *Tobolski*—During the year 1930, this property containing 2,050 acres in St. Ann, was acquired for land settlement at a cost of £8,666 3s. 10d., at the end of 1931, 841 acres had been sold to 47 small settlers and sales are continuing.

115. *Monklands* containing 1,500 acres in St. Thomas, was also acquired for land settlement during 1930, at a cost of £4,033 7s. 6d. This property is being sold off, so far 350 acres have been sold to 38 settlers.

116. *Glenbrook* in Westmoreland, a property of 600 acres, has been divided into 115 lots which have been sold with the exception of a lot of about 14 acres. Purchased during 1931.

117. *Burnt Savannah* which was also bought in 1931, is a property in Westmoreland of 585 acres, and applications have been received for all the land. It is expected that it will be cut up at a very early date and handed over to the respective purchasers.

118. *Progress in Co-operative Associations*.—The progress of the Agricultural Co-operative movement during the past year has again been satisfactory.

119. In spite of the unprecedented world-wide depression in trade affecting every commodity, the Banana Association has not only been able to maintain its position as a leading factor in the Banana World but has been able *materially* to increase its financial strength during the year. The percentage of the island's total exports of Bananas handled by the Association has been further increased and its membership has grown to approximately 12,000 growers with an area under contract of over 50,000 acres.

120. The co-operative marketing of Citrus Fruit under the auspices of the Citrus Producers Association has also made most gratifying progress during the past year. The membership of the Association has increased over 100% and there has been a very large increase in the amount of fruit handled and exported over the previous season. Serious difficulties were encountered by the industry during the early part of the present season owing to an excessive amount of wastage principally caused by the abnormal rains during 1931. Much valuable work was done by the Government Microbiologist and extensive experiments carried out in co-operation with the Association in an attempt to bring down the percentage of waste in shipments to a minimum. Special advertising and marketing campaigns which the Association have carried out this season particularly in Canada, have led to a very large demand for Jamaica Citrus Fruit which is reflected in the larger exports of oranges from the island this season, and the maintenance of grapefruit shipments in a year of unprecedented world depression and low market prices. Many members of the Association have intimated that they are increasing their cultivation of Citrus Fruit. The Association gives employment to large numbers of workers both in Kingston and in the country. The Citrus Industry has benefited greatly from the better handling, preparation and marketing of fruit through the Association Central Packing House and the Co-operative Association.

121. The Co-operative Marketing of Coconuts by the Coconut Producers Association and the development of edible oil manufacture is now taking definite shape with the passing of recent legislation for the protection of the locally made product. Within the next few months the Association whose membership represents a big proportion of the island's total production expects to complete its Central Factory in Kingston and be turning out sufficient oil to meet the island's consumption.

122. The organisation of the Dairymen and the Bee-keepers for co-operative marketing of their products has been discussed during the year but has not yet taken definite shape.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

123. In 1931, the value of the Exports and Imports of the Colony showed a decrease compared with the figures for the preceding year.

124. The value of the Imports (exclusive of goods imported through the Parcels Post), amounted to £4,734,401 as compared with £5,823,037 in 1930. A comparative statement showing the quantities and values

of the principal articles from the principal countries, is given in Table A. pp. 23-25.

125. The yield in 1931 from Import Duties (exclusive of Parcels Post) amounted to £1,002,036, a decrease of £67,344. Parcels Post duties amounted to £35,549, a decrease of £11,882.

126. The value of the Export Trade, (exclusive of Parcels Post exports) decreased from £4,075,473 in 1930 to £3,399,892 in 1931. A comparative table of the quantities and values of the twelve principal products exported to the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America and other countries, is given in Table B. pp. 26-28

127. The following statements shows the values of Exports and Imports for the years 1913, 1928 to 1931.

	1913.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Exports	2,430,208	4,197,056	4,669,173	4,091,573	3,420,750
Imports	2,837,447	6,376,298	7,027,013	6,101,513	4,945,539

128. Prices of imported goods generally showed a decline as compared with previous years, due chiefly to over-production and the abandonment of the gold standard in several countries. There was a slight increase in trade with the British Empire, as the following percentages show:—

Imports.

			1930.	1931.
			%	%
British Empire	..	..	58.0	60.5
Other Countries	..	..	42.0	39.5

Exports.

British Empire	..	..	54.1	60.0
Other Countries	..	..	45.9	40.0

129. The following table shows the change in the direction of Trade, with the principal Countries in 1913-4 and during the past three years:—

TABLE "A"

1929.

	Canada.		U.S.A.		Other Countries.		Total.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.

TABLE "B."

1931.

Unit of Quantity.	United Kingdom.		Canada.		U.S.A.		Other Countries.		Total.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.
		£ 1,140,295	£ ..	£ 860,054	£ ..	£ 1,046,916	£ ..	£ 352,627	£ 3,396,892
lbs.	338,866	2,915	3,689,142	31,769	910,975	7,835	985,748	8,468	50,987

Stems	14,024	1,259,023	130,000	780,077	14,620	407,749	7,585	9,177,390	170,993
No.	803,359	3,331,412	306,968	9,955,289	814,529	572,710	58,539	22,335,605	1,983,395
"	24,921	4,481,883	22,613	79,560	380	220,033	1,144	9,931,036	49,058
pkgs.	3,950	3,018,100	10,321	30,937,350	106,627	604,235	2,072	35,715,583	122,970
	73,584	..	..	110	1,250	1,619	17,809	8,423	92,643
lbs.	9,172	..	..	1,544,184	7,084	4,449,115	22,382	7,890,164	38,638
"	13,140	174,737	2,322	800,837	11,054	73,183	1,007	1,997,355	27,523
"	2,108	201,251	1,791	2,815,908	25,062	8,960,562	79,707	12,214,586	108,668
galls.	32,381	21,300	2,130	..	..	64,019	6,402	409,132	40,913
tons	49,074	38,319	328,617	..	..	95	812	44,294	378,503
"	125	..	..	3,580	8,950	15,144	38,980	18,774	48,035

Imports.

	1913-4.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	(Average)			
	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom ..	38.0	26.3	29.8	29.7
U. S. A. ..	47.1	31.0	33.2	30.2
Canada ..	8.5	18.0	16.4	17.5
Other Countries ..	6.4	24.7	20.6	22.6
Total ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Exports.

	1913-4.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	(Average)			
	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom ..	17.9	18.4	27.3	33.5
U. S. A. ..	59.3	33.9	33.4	30.8
Canada ..	5.6	23.7	25.9	25.3
Other Countries ..	17.2	24.0	13.4	10.4
Total ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

130. The average rate of wages for a labourer in Government employ is 2/6 per day. Private employers pay men from 2/6 to 3/6 per day and women from 1/6 to 1/8 per day. Factory Workers receive a wage of from 20/- to 25/- per week for a week of $5\frac{1}{2}$ days of 9 hours each and Shop Assistants (men) receive a wage of from 60/- to 70/- per week for a week of $5\frac{1}{2}$ days of 8 hours each. Women Shop Assistants receive 25/- per week.

131. The only Railway operating in Jamaica is the Jamaica Government Railway and a schedule of the wages paid in the Department is set out below:—

Permanent Way Superintendents	from £180 to £335 per annum.
Train Despatchers	.. " 70/ " 125/ per week
Head Office Clerks	.. " 20/ " 110/ "
Traffic Clerks	.. " 30/ " 80/ "
Typists	.. " 35/ " 45/ "
Junior Clerks and Learners	.. " 10/ " 25/ "
Draughtsmen	.. " 90/ " 150/ "
Assistant Draughtsmen	.. " 20/ " 35/ "
Learner Draughtsmen	.. " 15/ " 25/ "
Station Masters	.. " 35/ " 110/ "
Guards	.. " 30/ " 60/ "
Brakemen	.. " 21/ " 30/ "
Tranship Porters	.. " 21/ " 40/ "
Shop Foremen	.. " 95/ " "
Track Foremen	.. " 30/ " 60/ "
Shed Foremen	.. " 90/ " 115/ "
Engine Drivers	.. " 60/ " 80/6 "
Firemen	.. " 37/ " 44/ "
Mechanics	.. " 32/ " 60/ "
Carpenters	.. " 30/ " 50/ "
Painters	.. " 28/ " 34/ "
Shedmen	.. " 4/ per day
ditto	.. " 5/- per night
Apprentices	.. " 8/ to 24/ per week
Gangers	.. " 3/9 " 4/ per day
Labourers	.. " 2/6 " 3/6 "
Storemen	.. " 10/6 " 20/ per week

132. The following is a list, giving cost, of the staple foodstuffs of the labouring class in Jamaica:—

Bread	.. .. 8 ozs. for 2 2-5d
Crackers	.. .. 1½d. doz.
Peas and Beans	.. .. 8d. per qt
Yams	.. .. 2d. per lb.
Coconuts	.. .. 1½d. each
Sweet Potatoes	.. .. 1d. per lb.
Cocoas	.. .. 1½d. per lb.
Plantains	.. .. 2d. each
Sugar, B. A.	.. .. 2½d. per lb.
Flour	.. .. 3d. per lb.

Rice	..	..	3d. per lb.
Meal	..	..	1½d. per lb.
Codfish	..	..	6d. per lb.
Herrings	..	..	3d. per lb.
Shads	..	..	4d. per lb.
Mackerels	..	..	4d. per lb.
Salt (fine)	..	..	1d. per lb.
C. S. Oil	..	..	1/4d. per qt.
Coconut Oil	..	..	1/ per qt.
Beef	..	..	6d.-7½d. per lb.

133. During 1931, a 4 lb. loaf of bread cost 1/7 1-5d. and a labourer's pay therefore, provided he worked for 6 days per week, was equal to 9 loaves in Government employ and from 9 to 13 loaves in private employ. In Jamaica, however, a labourer does not normally consume as much bread as would a labourer in a colder climate. The normal diet of a Jamaica labourer consists of a small quantity of bread and a much larger quantity of yams or sweet potatoes.

134. The cost of living in Jamaica although it has decreased somewhat in recent years, is still considerably above pre-war level. Taking 100 as the Index Figure for the years 1913 and 1914 the Index Figure for 1931 works out at an average of 157 made up as follows:—

Foodstuffs—			
Local Products	..	174	
Imported Articles	..	128	151 (mean)
Clothing, etc.	..	..	159
Miscellaneous	..	..	162
			<hr/>
			472
			<hr/>
Average			157

135. Furnished bungalows cost from £12 to £20 per month in the residential districts of Kingston and St. Andrew and unfurnished bungalows from £8 to £14 per month. In the country districts, unfurnished bungalows (when obtainable) cost from £6 to £12 per month.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

136. The total departmental expenditure on Education for the year 1930-31 was £200,826, an increase of £17,560 on the expenditure for 1929-30.

137. There are four classes of recognized Public Elementary Schools (a) Voluntary Denominational Schools (b) Voluntary Undenominational Schools, whose only difference from Denominational Schools is that the Manager is not necessarily the owners' representative but is appointed to represent the interests of two or more amalgamated schools (c) Trust Schools owned by the Ludford Trust and treated for most purposes as Government Schools, and (d) Schools administered by a School Board and known as Government Schools. In practice (a) and (b) are styled Voluntary Schools and (c) and (d) Government Schools. There are 133 schools administered by School Boards, 74 of which are owned by the Government while 59 receive a nominal rent. Compulsory attendance

is limited to 14 compulsory areas in which the average attendance is 59%. The number of children affected is 17,541 excluding infants. In the non-compulsory areas 106,075 children are enrolled with an average attendance of 53%.

138. The total enrolment for the whole island is 134,012 with an average attendance of 56%.

139. The total cost of Elementary Education exclusive of establishment charges for 1930-31 amounted to £158,252.

140. There are in all 655 grant-aided Elementary Schools. There is also a large number of elementary private schools in regard to which details are not available. Two new Government Schools were opened during 1930-31 and a sum of £5,000 was expended during the same period in building grants for denominational schools and teachers' quarters, but there are still many denominational school buildings in a very bad state of repair.

141. The Primary Schools employ about 1,650 teachers. There are four Training Colleges one for men and three for women teachers. During 1930-31, 40 teachers with college training entered the profession and approximately 40 assistant teachers were registered without college training.

142. The further education of Elementary School children is assisted from general revenue by scholarships tenable at Secondary Schools for from two to five years. Nine special scholarships of the value of £50 per annum tenable for four years are awarded annually to children from Primary Schools in parishes unprovided with Secondary Schools. In addition every grant-aided Secondary School is required to maintain free places for at least 20% of its numbers. The grant-aided Secondary Schools, nineteen in number, are under the control of the Jamaica Schools Commission and grants are recommended in accordance with the Annual Reports submitted by the Supervising Inspector of Secondary Schools.

143. The accepted External Examinations for the recognized Secondary Schools are those of the Cambridge Syndicate of Local Examinations held at 19 centres. At the last examinations held (July and December, 1931) 500 candidates sat for the Junior Examination, 291 for the School Certificates and 15 entered for and 7 passed (46%) the Higher School Certificate Examination in July. The results of the examination of Junior and School Certificate candidates in December, 1931 are not yet to hand.

144. Public assistance for University and Collegiate Education is confined to the expenditure for Scholarships. Provision is made annually from Government funds for three scholarships tenable at British Universities, one of which is for girls. An annual scholarship tenable at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, is also provided by the Government. One Rhodes Scholarship a year is allocated to Jamaica.

145. In the examinations of the University of London held in Jamaica during 1931, 43 candidates sat for the Matriculation Examination and 19 passed, including 2 in the First Division. For the Intermediate Arts there were 4 candidates. 3 of whom passed and one was referred. One candidate sat for Intermediate Divinity and was referred. Three candidates sat for the Final Arts examination and 2 passed,

and one candidate sat for the Final examination in Arts with Honours and passed in the Second Division. One candidate sat for the final examination in Laws and passed.

146. There are three recognized Continuation Schools in the Island; one in Kingston maintained by the Government and two in the parish of St. Mary. Excepting these, the Farm School at Hope, the Trade Scholarships and the scholarships and free places in Secondary Schools, there is no avenue of continued education for the majority of children attending the Elementary Schools.

147. The Government Technical School, Kingston, provides continuation, commercial, domestic science and technical departments. As a result of a Report made by a Committee of Enquiry appointed by the Governor in 1929 on the working of this school, many of the disabilities under which the school was working in respect of accommodation and staff have been removed, and the curricula and supervision of all branches have been reorganized under a new Principal during 1931.

148. Trade Scholarships are awarded to Elementary School Boys who wish to be apprenticed to a trade or to enter the Government Farm School. Their value is £20 per annum which may be increased where necessary by a maintenance grant of £20 per annum. They are tenable for a maximum period of five years a part of which is usually spent at the Technical School, Kingston.

149. The Carron Hall and Highgate Girls' Continuation Schools, St. Mary, receive Government Grants. Their curriculum is in Literary Subjects, needlework, housecraft and hygiene. These schools do excellent work especially from the point of view of character training. There is little doubt however, that their curricula should be of a less literary and more practical nature. But there are few local teachers able to teach domestic subjects and fewer still to teach commercially profitable handicrafts. There is no continuation school for boys outside Kingston.

150. Manual Training Departments are attached to nine Government Schools but three are in abeyance on account of shortage of qualified staff.

151. Recognized Evening Classes are held only at the Kingston Technical School where they have been reorganized and are shewing much improvement in numbers and efficiency. There are also unaided private Commercial Colleges which give day and evening instruction in literary and commercial subjects.

152. There are nine certified Industrial Schools and Orphanages, and four Orphanages uncertified. The Government Industrial School, Stony Hill, is maintained wholly from Government Funds. The remaining schools and orphanages are financed partly by the Parochial Boards, partly by the Government and partly by private funds. Admission to an Industrial School is in most cases by Magistrate's order.

153. The Lyndale, Swift and Wortley Homes are primarily for East Indian children. Until recently children could not be detained in these schools after the age of 16, but they may now be detained until 18 in cases where it is shewn to be desirable in the interest of the child or the community. The Industrial Schools are as a rule well conducted institutions, but lack funds to employ a sufficiently trained staff whether for the class room or for trade instruction.

154. The Government Industrial School, Stony Hill (Boys and Girls) is maintained by the Government, under the charge of the Inspector of Reformatories and Industrial Schools. A Board of Visitors is appointed by the Governor, which arranges monthly visits of inspection and holds fortnightly Board Meetings. The numbers on Roll for 1931 were 400 boys and 100 girls. The school is situated at Stony Hill, at an elevation of 1,360 feet above sea level, and yet is only 9 miles from Kingston. Apart from the difficulty of obtaining an adequate water supply, the site is ideal for the purpose. The buildings, though very old, are spacious, well ventilated and cool. The old, badly lighted schoolroom of the Girls Section has been replaced by one of greatly improved design, and other improvements are being made which include a suitable playground for the girls. The curriculum is arranged so that each child devotes half of each day to the ordinary subjects of elementary school work, and the other half day to manual work. Drill, Games, Hobbies, Scouting and Evening Continuation Classes for senior boys, each take an important part in completing a form of institutional life which is a creditable pattern of an English Borstal Institution. The weak point of the whole system is lack of after-care, but this is now receiving the attention of a sub-committee of the Board of Visitors. A "House" system has been established and is proving a great success. The boys are taught carpentry, blacksmithing, tailoring, gardening, agriculture, masonry, baking and cooking and the girls laundry work, sewing and cooking. A good brass band is maintained. Every possible form of sport is encouraged, mainly by inter-House Competitions for Shields, Cups, etc. and the House spirit has developed to such an extent that a boy is just as keen to earn a few marks for the good of his House as he used to be to win an individual prize. The reverse of this is also felt to be beneficial in that offences lose marks for the House, and the culprit dreads offending the Public Opinion of his House as much as or more than any direct punishment he may receive from the authorities. There is a system of good conduct badges bearing a cash value. Portion of such earnings may be used, at the discretion of the Superintendent, for certain purposes during the period of detention, but the major portion stands to the credit of the inmate until he is discharged.

155. Prison records show that there is a marked decrease in recent years in the number of ex-Industrial School boys who become adult criminals, which is, perhaps, the surest sign that the school is achieving its object.

156. There is no provision (outside the Public Hospitals) for maintenance in the event of sickness or accident, nor for old age, outside the poor relief law, nor is there insurance against unemployment. Grants were made in 1930-31 of £694 to the Child Welfare Association, £100 to the Boy Scouts' Association and £200 to the Salvation Army School for the Blind. With the exception of the last named institution there is no provision in the Colony for the education of physically defective or mentally retarded children.

157. The Bureau of Health Education under the Central Board of Health is the principal agency for Health Education in Jamaica. The bulletin "Jamaica Public Health" issued by the Bureau together with health posters have been of inestimable value to the Colony. Its work in connection with school Dental Clinics, the Child Welfare

Association, the Anti-Tuberculosis League, the Malaria Commission and the Empire Health Week are directly educative.

158. Under the Jamaica Boy Scouts' Association there are at present 49 Groups actively at work. These groups comprise 39 Scout Troops, 13 Wolf Cub Packs and 8 Rover Crews, numbering 112 Scouters, 958 Scouts, 44 Sea Scouts, 289 Cubs, 126 Rover Scouts, 63 Rover Sea Scouts—a total of 1,592. This shews an increase of 487 over 1930 when the total was 1,205. His Excellency Sir R. E. Stubbs, G.C.M.G., is Chief Scout of Jamaica.

159. Under the Girl Guides Local Association there are now 61 groups at work. These comprise 8 Ranger, 40 Guide and 13 Brownie Companies. The total enrolment for 1931 was 1,662. The Island Commissioner is Lady Stubbs, C.B.E.

160. The Institute of Jamaica, for the encouragement of Literature, Science and Art—with its Library of 34,188 books (24,281 in the General Library and 9,907 in the West India Reference Library)—distributed 44,841 books amongst its members during 1931, in addition to which many members of the public, including Tourists from England, Canada and the United States, consulted the General Reference Library and the West India Reference Library. Amongst the students in the latter was a graduate doing post-graduate work on a West Indian subject. Twenty-seven Teachers Associations affiliated with the Institute, borrowed boxes of books from the Institution during the year. Many parties of school children visited the Natural History Museum and the History Gallery of the Institute. One Lecture on "Reforestation, Conservation and Utilization of Lumber" was given at a Members Meeting on the 30th of April.

161. During the year two Exhibitions of Paintings of oil and water-colours of Jamaica scenes, one by a resident in Jamaica, the other by an English visitor, were held at the Institute.

162. During the year the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music held its 24th Annual Examination of Candidates in Music, of whom 590 sat.

163. The Musical Society of Jamaica held the second of a series of Musical Festival Competitions inaugurated in 1929.

164. Cricket is played during the season all over the Island and at all Secondary Schools and at the majority of Elementary Schools. The Jamaica Cricket Association was formed in 1925 and all the principal clubs in the Island are affiliated to it. It is governed by a Board of Control. Senior and Junior Competitions are held throughout the Colony and these conjoined with the visits paid by teams from the Mother Country and by West Indian Teams to England and Australia have resulted in great strides being made in the game, both as regards keenness and actual play. Association Football is also keenly followed from October to February, inclusive. The Competitions under the Jamaica Football Association number six and the game is now achieving great popularity throughout the Island. Lawn Tennis is played all the year round, and is fostered by various competitions under the Jamaica Lawn Tennis Association which is affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association, England. As in the case of cricket, the visits of well-known players from abroad have done much to raise the standard of the game throughout the Island.

165. School Sports are held in connection with all Secondary and many Elementary Schools, and Interscholastic Competitions are arranged for annually.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

166. The following statement shows the volume of shipping during the past five years.

1927 entered	1,754	vessels of	3,001,232	tons.
1928	"	1,593	"	3,076,996
1929	"	1,651	"	3,337,919
1930	"	1,631	"	3,573,731
1931	"	1,438	"	3,244,558
1927 cleared	1,754	"	3,008,172	"
1928	"	1,562	"	3,042,893
1929	"	1,635	"	3,310,243
1930	"	1,625	"	3,541,633
1931	"	1,407	"	3,222,945

167. The following regular Steamship Lines serve the Colony:

British Register—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Leyland Line, Elders and Fyffes, Harrison Line, Pickford and Black, The Jamaica Direct Fruit Line, Ltd., The Canadian Transport Co., The Canadian National Steamship Company, Pacific Steam Navigation Co., The James Nourse, Ltd., The Canadian Pacific R.R. Steamship Co., The Standard Fruit and Shipping Co., The Webster Steamship Line (the last named company is registered in Jamaica). Although Elders and Fyffes is a British registered Company, the firm is in fact controlled by the United Fruit Co., an American Corporation which owns the bulk of their capital.

U. S. A.—The United Fruit Co., The Standard Fruit and Shipping Co., The Colombian Steamship Co., Inc., The Aluminum Line, Gulf Pacific Line, Munson Line.

Dutch—The Royal Netherlands Steamship Co., Holland American Line.

German—The Horn Steamship Co. and the Hamburg Amerika Line.

168. No ships were built in Jamaica during the year.

169. The Island possesses a good system of macadam roads which are divided into two classes:—

- (a) Main Roads of a total length of 2,408 miles which are maintained out of the General Revenue of the Colony.
- (b) Parochial Roads aggregating 4,228 miles of which 1,988 are suitable for light motor traffic and 2,240 miles are unsuitable, being cart or bridle roads. They are maintained by Parochial Boards out of their own funds.

170. During 1931, the main roads were maintained at an average cost of about £119 per mile including expenditure in repairing flood damage. With few exceptions these roads were originally constructed

of limestone without any proper foundation, and are therefore suitable only for light wheeled traffic. This type of construction is inadequate to meet the ever-increasing requirements of motor traffic. Legislation prohibiting the importation and use, without special permission of Motor Vehicles weighing more than two and a half tons unladen has been enacted. The existing roads are gradually being improved so as to enable them to carry such motor traffic safely. Up to the end of the year under review, the mileage of asphalted sprayed roads amounted to 126 miles. The programme of Road Construction begun in 1927, with the object of opening up fertile areas, and providing feeders to the Government Railway, has been steadily pushed on, and it is hoped that the programme of these new roads, including widening and strengthening, amounting to approximately 281 miles and the construction of 69 bridges, will be completed about August, 1932.

171. The year was one of heavy rainfall, the mean for the Island being 91.53 inches or 15.07 inches above the 50-year average, and the mean number of rainy days was 138, the average being 122.

172. There are no navigable canals in the Island.

173. With the passing of Law 30 of 1929 (The Motor Omnibus Law), transportation by Motor Omnibuses was placed on a proper basis. There are 86 licensed Motor Omnibuses, 40 of which operate in Kingston and Lower Saint Andrew over routes totalling 47 miles, the other 46 operating between Kingston and the outlying areas not served by Railway communication. It would seem probable that transportation by Motor Omnibuses is likely to increase and the effects of such development on the Railway and other existing forms of transportation, such as tramways, is a matter that will need careful consideration.

174. The Jamaica Government Railway (main and branch lines) is 210½ miles in length. It traverses the Island by two main lines:—

(a) Kingston to Montego Bay—112¾ miles.

(b) Spanish Town (11¾ miles from Kingston) to Port Antonio 63½ miles.

There are branch lines as follows:—

(1) From May Pen Junction (32½ miles from Kingston) to Frankfield—23 miles.

(2) From Bog Walk (20½ miles from Kingston) on the Port Antonio line to Ewarton—8½ miles.

(3) From Linstead (3½ miles from Bog Walk on the Ewarton Branch Line) to New Works—3 miles. No passenger trains are run over this branch.

175. The main lines run across high mountains which form the backbone of the Island, to the north coast; Port Antonio being north-east, and Montego Bay north-west, of Kingston. The Frankfield and Ewarton lines traverse rich agricultural districts near the centre of the Island. The gauge is 4' 8½". The maximum gradients are 1 in 30, and the maximum curves 5 chains. The highest point of the Railway is Greenvale on the Montego Bay Line, 1,705 feet above sea level. The highest point on the Port Antonio line is between Richmond and Troja at 31 miles—905 feet.

176. The revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1931 was £363,873, and the expenditure £287,170. There is no depreciation fund, but provision is made in the Annual Estimates for renewals, depreciation and betterment. The total weight of goods carried during the year

under review was 338,170 tons, as compared with 381,993 tons for the year 1930; the number of passengers carried in 1931, was 668,644 as compared with 754,288 in 1930.

177. The management of the Railway is assisted by an Advisory Board of nine members, consisting of the Director and eight others, chiefly local business men, who advise the Government on matters of policy.

178. Since 1925, the work of relaying old 60 lb. rails with 80 lb. rails has been proceeding. 133 miles of 60 lb. rails were in existence. In 1925, 5 miles were relaid, in 1926, 5 miles. In 1927, the sum of £200,000 was voted so that the relaying could be carried out more expeditiously, and under Law 20 of 1930, a further sum of £32,500 was voted. From 1927 to the end of 1931, the total mileage which has been changed from 60 lb. to 80 lb. rails is 100 miles.

179. Banana traffic continues to increase year by year, and more bananas were exported from the Island during 1931 than during any previous year.

180. The Railway carries about 50% of the total number of stems exported, and the number of stems carried by rail during the past ten years has increased from 4,491,000 to 12,897,000.

181. The importance of the banana traffic to the Railway is shown by the following figures:—

Year.			Total Goods Revenue.	Banana Revenue.
			£	£
1926-27	..	..	255,997	166,319 or 64%
1927-28	..	..	287,279	194,799 or 67%
1928-29	..	..	230,518	148,221 or 64%
1929-30	..	..	292,165	208,565 or 71%
1930-31	..	..	307,953	237,385 or 77%

182. General Merchandise Traffic has decreased in spite of the efforts which have been made to divert it from road and sea to the Railway. Rates on many commodities have been reduced, a quicker service has been given and much has been done by canvassing and offering facilities to the Public, but this traffic continues to decrease year by year. The falling off can only be attributed to road motor competition and the general depression in trade.

183. Passenger Traffic during 1931 has fallen off considerably and here again the decrease is undoubtedly due to trade depression and road motor competition.

184. The Government Postal Telegraph system was inaugurated in 1879, with a complement of 47 offices. At the close of the calendar year, 1931, there were 1727 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, with 60 telegraph and 118 telephone offices. One telegraph office was closed and ten telephone offices were opened during the year.

185. The charge for telegrams is 9d. for the first twelve words and a half-penny for each additional word. Press telegrams are granted a special rate of approximately half the above charges. An all night and holiday telegraph service is provided on payment of graduated fees.

186. The Railway telegraphic system, in connection with which there are 44 offices, assists in placing telegraphic communication within

the reach of all. These offices work in collaboration with the Postal and Telegraph system but are controlled by the Management of the Railway.

187. In 1930, 395,544 telegrams were despatched, and the revenue amounted to £22,709 17s. 2½d. In 1931, 327,339 and £18,090 5s. 4½d. respectively.

188. There are three wireless stations in the Island under Government license, two owned and operated by the Direct West India Cable Company, Ltd., and one by Pan American Airways, Inc.

Two are situated at Kingston, and the other at Stony Hill. Of the 2 owned by the D.W.I. Cable Co., one is used principally for shore to ship traffic on the usual wave length of 600 metres. The Stony Hill station which is situated nine miles from Kingston, has an up-to-date 25 K.W.C.W. installation and engages in long distance commercial traffic on wave length of from 2,880 metres upward. This station is controlled from the Company's Head Office at Kingston. The Pan-American Airways W/T Station is used for the control of their aeroplanes operating between North and South America and the Caribbean Islands—Short wave only is used. Numerous wireless receiving sets have been established (under Government license) throughout the Island by persons desirous of receiving the programmes broadcast by American and other Broadcasting Stations. No Broadcasting Stations exist in the Island. No amateur transmitting licenses are issued.

189. Telegraphic communication with all parts of the world is furnished by two Cable Companies, viz.: the Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd., and the West India and Panama Telegraph Co., Ltd. The cable of the former Company runs from Jamaica through Turks Island to Bermuda and thence to Halifax, N.S., at which point connection is made with all the important Trans-Atlantic Lines eastward and with the Canadian Pacific Railroad, Commercial Cable Companies, and Western Union Lines inland and westward. This Company also connects at Halifax, N.S., with the Imperial route to Great Britain and Australia, and with the Marconi Company's Trans-Atlantic Service. The Pacific Cable Board has established communication with all the British West Indian Islands, and West Indian traffic entrusted to the Direct West Indian Cable Company is now handed over to the "P.C.B." at the latter's Turks Island Office. The West India and Panama Telegraph Co., Ltd., maintains communication with foreign countries by means of cables to Cuba, where they transfer their cablegrams to their connecting companies, who have cables connecting with different parts of the United States of America. In addition this Company has a network of cables touching at practically every West Indian Island. These two Cable Companies have been merged into the Imperial and International Communication Co., Ltd., but in Jamaica retain their old names.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURE.

190. The commercial Banks doing business in the Island are Barclay's Bank—Dominion, Colonial and Overseas (formerly the Colonial Bank), The Bank of Nova Scotia, The Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

191. The value of the local notes of each Bank outstanding at the 31st December, 1931, was as follows:

Barclay's Bank—Dominion, Colonial and Overseas (formerly the Colonial Bank)	..	..	£101,906
The Bank of Nova Scotia	..	..	161,672
The Royal Bank of Canada	..	..	39,820
The Canadian Bank of Commerce	..	..	22,254

192. These Banks all have their principal offices for the Island in Kingston. Barclay's Bank has branches at Annotto Bay, Falmouth, Lucea, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, Savanna-la-Mar and St. Ann's Bay.

The Bank of Nova Scotia has branches at Black River, Christiana, Brown's Town, Mandeville, May Pen, Montego Bay, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, St. Ann's Bay, Savanna-la-Mar, and Spanish Town.

The Royal Bank of Canada has one branch at Montego Bay.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce has no branches.

193. A Government Savings Bank was started in the Colony in 1870. This Bank used to allow interest on deposits at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum. When, however, the commercial Banks entered the field by starting savings branches and giving higher rates of interest and more facilities to depositors, the deposits of the Government Savings Bank declined considerably, and steps were taken to re-organise the Bank by the passing of Law 7 of 1917. Under this Law, the management of the Bank was placed in the hands of a Board. New regulations were drawn up and approved by the Governor in Privy Council and the rate of interest on deposits was increased to that given by the commercial Banks, namely 3% per annum, compounded half-yearly. There are now 107 branches throughout the Island as compared with 19 prior to the re-organization, and the Bank's progress is fully demonstrated by the following figures:—

- (a) Amount at credit of depositors in 1919, £287,178; in 1931, £646,753 4s. 11d.
- (b) Investments held in British and Colonial and other Securities in 1919, amounted to £335,734 and in 1931 to £655,168 16s. 11d.
- (c) The net profit paid into General Revenue in 1919, was £964, £3,082 was paid into General Revenue as net profit for 1926, and £1,313 was carried to the Reserve Fund. The net profit for 1929 which was carried to the Reserve Fund, was £4,464 18s. 4d., and the net profit for 1931 to be carried to the Reserve Fund is £8,862 19s. 5d.

194. Under Law 11 of 1925, which repealed Law 7 of 1917, the Funds of the Government Savings Bank may be invested (1) in British and Local Government or other Colonial Government Securities, (2) in real securities in Jamaica, (3) on deposit in Banks, (4) in any other manner authorised by the Governor in Privy Council.

195. There are 56 Co-operative Loan Banks on the Register under the Industrial and Provident Societies, Law (33 of 1902) of which 3 are moribund. The greater number of these were started early in 1913, in order to handle loans made by the Government for the re-suscitation of cultivations damaged by the drought and hurricane of the previous year. Loans were also made through Loan Banks in

1916-17 and 1918, in consequence of the hurricanes of 1916 and 1917. These loans were made through the Agricultural Loan Societies Board under the provisions of Statutes giving the Banks extraordinary powers of recovering loans. Loans have also been made to the Banks under Law 6 of 1912, "A Law for the Encouragement of Agricultural Loan Societies," such moneys being used with their own funds for the purpose of making loans to their members for short periods on personal security, note of hand, mortgage, etc., for agricultural and industrial purposes, *e.g.*, for cultivation, the purchase of stock, cane mills, tools and the like. These Banks have supplied a long felt want among the small settlers.

196. In 1930, Law 15 of 1930 was passed, giving the Board further and better powers, and extending their duties of supervision to all Agricultural Loan Societies.

197. To 31st December, 1931, £134,506 was lent to 37 Banks and £120,408 received in repayment. The sum of £59,641 was also lent to Banks to purchase 12 properties for the purpose of land settlement, of which £42,567 was repaid.

198. Interest paid since the inception of the operations of the Board amounted to £38,805 and 46 Banks from which returns were received collected share capital amounting to £44,523. These figures indicate that the work of the Loan Banks has been successfully carried out, and that they are likely to prove of permanent benefit to small holders and peasant proprietors. Some of these Banks have extended their sphere of usefulness by taking advantage of the Land Settlement Scheme, whereby Government moneys are lent for the purchase of properties for re-sale in lots to small settlers.

199. The following are legal tender in Jamaica:—Gold, silver and copper coins of the United Kingdom; local cupro nickel coins; local Government Notes and British Currency Notes; the U.S.A. gold eagle and its multiples and sub-multiples and the sub-divisions of the gold doubloon. U.S.A. silver and notes are not legal tender but are freely accepted throughout the business community and by the Banks. Accounts are kept in sterling.

200. Local Currency Notes under Section 5 of Law 27 of 1804, were in circulation on the 31st December, 1930, to the extent of £80,626 17s. 6d. in the following denominations:—

2/6 Notes.			5/- Notes.			10/ Notes.			Total.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
121	17	6	34,288	10	0	46,216	10	0	80,626	17	6

The 2/6 notes are gradually being withdrawn from circulation.

201. The Commercial Banks doing business in Jamaica issue local notes. Jamaica has its own nickel coinage of 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. denominations.

202. British Weights and Measures are used in Jamaica, and the standard weights and measures are the same as those used in England. It is interesting to note, however, that a "stone" (14 lbs.) is much more used as a unit of weight than it is in England, many commodities such as potatoes, onions, hay, etc., being sold by the stone.

203. In measurements, too, a "chain" (66 ft.) and a "link" (7 ins.) are common units of measurements. Work in the fields and on the roads

is always measured by the "chain" and in describing distances between two points less than a mile apart, the "chain" is nearly always used as the unit of description.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

204. In addition to the construction of new roads and bridges, an account of which appears under Chapter X, the principal activities of the year were:—

- (a) The completion of the extensive scheme of improvements and additional wards at the Lunatic Asylum, which have been in progress during the last two years.
- (b) The continuation of the enlargement scheme at the Public General Hospital, Kingston, and the completion of the New V. D. Ward.
- (c) The building of two large Government Schools.
- (d) New Police Station, Guy's Hill. New Public Mortuary, Kingston. New Post Office, Lacovia. New King's Warehouse—No. 1 Pier. The completion of the first stage of the extensive improvements to the Black River Hospital.

205. The Public Works Department is established for the performance of the duties imposed by Law, or by order of the Governor, upon the Director of Public Works, which include the following:—

- (a) The making, repairing, deviating, maintaining and managing of all main roads—Law 33 of 1931.
- (b) The erection and maintenance of all Public Buildings—Law 16 of 1868.
- (c) The care and management of all Lighthouses—Law 8 of 1900.
- (d) The laying out, construction and maintenance of all Government Telegraph and Telephone Lines—Law 1 of 1879.
- (e) The management and control of the Rio Cobre Irrigation Works—Law 27 of 1872.
- (f) The management and control of the Spanish Town Water Works—Law 16 of 1877, and the construction, enlargement, improvement, repair, management and control of any other water works, at the request of a Parochial Board and authorised by the Governor—Laws 28 of 1889 and 19 of 1900.
- (g) The carrying out of all undertakings, the funds for which are provided by General Revenue or by Loans, and the design and carrying out of all important works, the funds for which are provided by Parochial Revenue or by Loans or Grants to Parochial Boards.

- (h) The Director of Public Works is the chief Adviser of the Government in regard to all matters involving structural work of any kind or the use of machinery, and is charged with the preparation of studies, designs, specifications and estimates for all such undertakings, and for the construction of the works when authorised.
- (i) The Director of Public Works has statutory powers under the Electric Lighting Law, The Telephone Law, The Tramways Law, and the Motor Vehicle Law. He is the Tribunal of Appeal under the Kingston Building Law—(24 of 1907) and is ex-officio a Trustee of the Titchfield Property, a Member of the Board of Management of the Milk River Baths (Law 30 of 1927) and Chairman of the Board of Transport (Law 30 of 1929).

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

206. The Courts of the Island are as follows:—

1. The Supreme Court.
2. The Resident Magistrate's Court.
3. The Petty Sessions Court.
4. The Coroner's Court.

207. The Supreme Court consists of the following:—

The Supreme Court with jurisdiction in civil matters over £100.
The Circuit Court with jurisdiction in indictable offences beyond the jurisdiction of Resident Magistrates. Appeals from Petty Sessions are also heard by the Judge of the Circuit Court.

The Appellate Court which hears appeals from the Supreme Court (civil jurisdiction) the Resident Magistrate's Court (civil and criminal) also appeals from the Cayman Islands in civil and criminal matters and from the Turks and Caicos Islands in criminal matters only.

208. There are three Judges of the Supreme Court, namely, a Chief Justice and two Puisne Judges.

209. The Resident Magistrate's Court has jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters—

- (a) In civil matters where the amount claimed does not exceed £100.
- (b) In criminal matters as set out in Section 270 of Law 39 of 1927.

There is also a summary jurisdiction given to Resident Magistrates by statute.

210. The civil work of the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew is disposed of by the Judge of the Kingston Court who has the same jurisdiction as a Resident Magistrate in civil proceedings.

211. The Petty Sessions Court is generally presided over by Justices of the Peace or by the Resident Magistrate of the parish who has the jurisdiction of two Justices of the Peace. The Court deals with minor offences.

212. There are fourteen Resident Magistrates in the Island, and one Judge of the Kingston Court. At present there are only thirteen Resident Magistrates as one is acting as Judge of the Kingston Court which post is now vacant due to the transfer of the holder of that office to another Colony.

213. The Coroner's Court is presided over by the Resident Magistrate of the parish with a jury.

POLICE.

JAMAICA CONSTABULARY.

214. In 1866, it was considered necessary to abolish the old police force, dating from 1834, and a Law was passed (No. 8 of 1867) establishing a new and improved Police or Constabulary Force. Under that Law the Governor is empowered to appoint the Officers and the Inspector General is authorised to admit persons as sub-Officers and Constables. The present authorised strength of the Force is 23 Officers and 1,082 Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables. No person is eligible for membership unless he can produce a certificate of character from a magistrate or other gentleman of position and can pass a satisfactory medical examination. He must not be less than five feet eight inches in height and 33 inches round the chest; not less than 20 or more than 25 years of age and unmarried; and be able to read, without hesitation any printed or written document and to write a fair hand. Every candidate is enrolled for five years (3 months on probation) and is bound to serve and reside in any place to which he may be appointed—his native parish and the parish with which he may be connected by marriage or family ties not being one of the districts to which he may be sent. Members of the Force are trained on semi-military lines, and perform the duties appertaining to the office of Constables. There are separate Detective and Water Police Branches recruited from the Regular Force. There is also a District Constabulary Force, for the purpose of connecting the main police system with the remote parts of the Island. The members are drawn from the better class of small settlers, and act as auxiliaries to the Regular Police.

PRISONS.

215. *A. General Penitentiary, Kingston*.—This is for convicted male prisoners with sentences exceeding six months, and European prisoners.

There is separate cell accommodation for 645 prisoners; a further 150 can be housed in association by using the Chapel, and 32 in hospital wards.

216. *St. Catherine District Prison, Spanish Town*.—For male prisoners awaiting trial, debtors, prisoners under sentence of death, and convicted male prisoners with sentences not exceeding six months.

There is separate cell accommodation for 512, association rooms including the Chapel for 306, and hospital wards for 40.

217. *Juvenile Adult Prison, Spanish Town*.—For selected male prisoners between the ages of 16 and 21.

Maximum accommodation for 66.

218. *Females' Prison, Kingston.*—For all women prisoners. Separate cell accommodation for 198, hospital wards for 15.

219. In the adult prisons, first offenders are located and work apart from the more hardened criminals.

220. At the Juvenile Adult Prison, special rules, and conditions prevail which include progressive grades, each grade having its special privileges. There is physical drill daily, and among other privileges which may be earned are games, and meals in association. Any boy proving to be a bad influence is reverted to a Juvenile party of the Adult Prison. Any young prisoners not selected for the Juvenile Adult Prison are located and work apart from adults in the ordinary prisons.

221. In the Females' Prison satisfactory classification is not possible as there are only three forms of labour, i.e., washing, (mostly for the Public Hospital), ironing and a small amount of sewing. This is particularly unfortunate because so many young girls of 14 to 18 are sent to prison with short sentences, often on a first conviction. The health of the prisoners is remarkably good.

222. The necessary arrangements for an effective Island-wide Probation system have been in existence for three years, but with the exception of the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew very little use seems to be made of it. It has proved very successful in Kingston and St. Andrew, and should be equally so in the country parishes.

Brief Statistics:

Average daily population—

General Penitentiary	..	..	535
St. Catherine District Prison	..	..	480
Juvenile Adult Prison	..	..	49
Females' Prison	..	..	69
Total	..	..	<u>1,133</u>

Number in custody 31.12.31—

General Penitentiary	..	605
St. Catherine District Prison	..	574
Total	..	<u>1,179</u>

Revenue	..	£13,080 19 6
Expenditure	..	£46,024 8 1
Cost of Prisons	..	<u>£32,943 8 7</u>

Value of Prison Manufactures used in Prisons—£3,890 13s. 5d.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

223. Thirty-five Laws were passed during the year 1931. A brief summary of those which may be considered of interest is given below:—

Law 1 of 1931.—"A Law further to amend the Tariff Law 1925, Law 4 of 1925 and all Laws amending the same." This Law varies some of the existing schedules to the present Tariff Laws by altering the rates of duty with regard to certain items and also exempts certain articles from duty.

Law 2 of 1931.—"A Law to amend Law 14 of 1923, The Rum Duty Amendment Law, 1923." The Law alters the duty on rum from ninepence per liquid gallon to eight shillings per proof gallon.

Law 4 of 1931.—"A Law for the more effectual prevention and punishment of Bribery and Corruption of and by members, officers or servants of corporations, councils, parochial and other boards, commissions or other public bodies." This Law provides the necessary legislation to deal with corrupt practices and for the punishment of bribery and corruption of and by members, officers or servants of corporations, councils, parochial and other boards, commission and other public bodies. It also makes provision in the case of public servants. The Law is largely based on the Imperial Statute 52 and 53 Victoria, chapter 69.

Law 6 of 1931.—"A Law to repeal the Laws relating to entertainments." This Law repeals the Laws under which duties were imposed on entertainments.

Law 11 of 1931.—"A Law further to amend the Kingston Building Law (Law 5 of 1883)." The Law gives relief to owners of small properties who desire to erect buildings of smaller areas than those mentioned in existing Laws by reducing the scale of fees. It also gives the Building Authority discretionary power to approve of applications unaccompanied by the plans required by the Laws.

Law 12 of 1931.—"A Law to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation." Under this Law the corporate area as constituted by the old Law is re-constituted into three districts, an urban, a suburban and a rural district. There shall be four members elected for the urban district and two each for the suburban and rural districts. In addition members of the Legislative Council for the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew and two Aldermen to be elected by the Councillors from outside the Council.

The Law also provides for women who are entitled to be registered as voters being eligible for election as Councillors.

The term "voters" has been substituted for the term "burgesses."

All the Laws dealing with the Corporation and with the corporate area improvements have been consolidated and embodied in this Law.

- Law 13 of 1931.**—"The Sugar Aid Industry Law." The Bill affords further temporary assistance to the Sugar Industry of Jamaica. It provides for (a) compulsory retention in the Island for local consumption of 20 % of the sugar manufactured (b) regulation of retail price by the Government (c) compulsory exportation of 80% of the sugar manufactured (d) grant of a subsidy or bonus of £2, per ton on each ton of sugar exported, and (e) prohibition of the importation of sugar except under license to be granted by the Board which is constituted under the Law. The Law is largely based on the lines of the Sugar Industry Aid Law, 1929.
- Law 16 of 1931.**—"A Law in relation to the erection and extension of the pier or jetty on the Leyland Wharf, Kingston." This Law is a private one and was introduced by an Elected Member on behalf of a Company known as the Leyland Wharves, Limited. The Law empowers the Company to extend into the harbour of Kingston by adding 150 feet to its length. The right to alter or add to the structure from time to time is reserved to the Company.
- Law 17 of 1931.**—"A Law to give effect to a certain Convention on the execution of Arbitral Awards." The Law was passed so as to create legislation which will enable the Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards, which was signed at Geneva on the 26th September, 1927, to become operative in Jamaica and its Dependencies and thus bring them into conformity with other countries which have adhered to the Convention.
- Law 18 of 1931.**—"A Law to give effect to a Protocol on Arbitration Clauses signed on behalf of His Majesty at a meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations held on the 24th day of September, 1923." This Law was passed to create legislation which will give effect in Jamaica and its Dependencies to the Protocol on Arbitration Clauses signed on behalf of His Majesty's Government at a meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations and thus bring Jamaica and its Dependencies into conformity with other countries which have acceded to the Protocol.
- Law 20 of 1931.**—"A Law to make provision for the improvement of the Kingston Race Course." "This Law makes provision for the improvement of the Kingston Race Course and to remove any doubts as to the powers and duties of the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation in relation thereto.
- Law 22 of 1931.**—"A Law in aid of the Jamaica Coconut Producers Association, Limited." The Law enables the Jamaica Coconut Producers Association, Limited, to carry out its scheme for the marketing of products from coconuts in all available markets.
- Law 23 of 1931.**—"A Law in aid of the Coconut Industry and to promote, aid and encourage the local manufacture of edible oils." Under this Law a Coconut Board is appointed by the Governor with powers and duties to be from time to time defined by him. The importation of edible oil is prohibited under the Law.

Power is vested in the Governor to fix maximum prices for edible oils and to increase the import duty on edible oils.

All manufacturers of edible oils are to be licensed and an excise duty of ninepence per gallon is imposed on all edible oils produced in the Island.

Law 25 of 1931.—"A Law to regulate the manufacture of rum in this Island." The Law prohibits during one year the manufacture by any person other than an approved manufacturer as defined by the Law, and restricts the production of rum by each approved manufacturer to one half of the average annual number of Imperial gallons of rum manufactured during the triennial period, defined, at the place or places set opposite his name in the First Schedule of the Bill. Liberty is reserved to the manufacturer to assign his right to any other approved manufacturer to make the quantity of rum which he would be entitled to make under the Law. Power is given to the Governor to fix maximum retail and wholesale prices on sales of rum in the Island.

Law 26 of 1931.—"A Law to amend the War Expenses (Jamaica Contribution) Law, 1921." The Imperial Treasury having consented to the suspension for one year of the payment authorised under Law 4 of 1921, this Law was passed to legalise such suspension and to provide for the subsequent payments.

Law 27 of 1931.—"A Law to amend the Customs Consolidation Law, 1877." The Law affords greater protection to Customs Officers from penalties and actions for damages at the instance of persons who have been unsuccessfully searched for smuggled goods.

Law 29 of 1931.—"A Law to amend the Bankruptcy Laws." This Law adds a definition of "debtor" whereby an absentee who carries on business in Jamaica through an agent or manager will for the purposes of bankruptcy proceedings be regarded as a debtor. It also declares the act of bankruptcy of the agent to be the act of bankruptcy of the absent principal and provides for certain books to be kept by every trader.

The Law also provides for the postponement of the husband's and wife's claim in bankruptcy to the claims of other creditors.

Law 32 of 1931.—"A Law relating to children and young persons." The Law provides for the protection of children and young persons. It confers on a Judge, Magistrate, or Justice, power to exclude the public from the Court during the testimony of a child or young person in cases which involve indecency or immorality. The presence of a child during any hearing, unless such child is charged or is a witness in the case, is prohibited under the Law.

"Child," in the Law, is defined as being a person under the age of 14 years and "young person" as a person above the age of 14 years and under the age of 16 years.

Law 33 of 1931.—"A Law to consolidate the Laws relating to Main Roads." This Law consolidates ten different Laws relating to main roads. It also provides for greater precision for the lighting of carriages in use on main roads during the period

between one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise.

Law 34 of 1931.—"A Law to consolidate the Laws relating to Parochial Roads." The Law consolidates fifteen different Laws relating to parochial roads. It provides for greater precision for the lighting of carriages in use on parochial roads during the period between one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

224. The following statement shows the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony during the past five years:—

		<i>Revenue.</i>		
1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
2,147,042	2,275,094	2,212,851	2,292,869	2,197,572

		<i>Expenditure.</i>		
1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
2,046,205	1,980,888	2,317,433	2,310,502	2,322,613

225. The total Expenditure during the year ended the 31st March, 1931, was £125,041 more than the total Revenue.

226. The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the period from the 1st April to the 31st December, 1931, under the various heads:—

Head of Revenue.		Amount.	Head of Expenditure.		Amount.
I. Customs		£791,431	Charges of Debt	..	£165,987
II. Harbour and Light Dues		7,108	Pensions	..	47,557
III. Licences, Excise, etc.—			Pensions—Widows and Orphans	..	13,411
(a) Licences		28,889	Governor and Staff	..	61,165
(b) Excise, etc.		196,802	Privy Council	..	47
(c) Income Tax		41,615	Legislative Council	..	2,955
(d) Land and House Tax		68,509	Colonial Secretariat	..	82,225
(e) Entertainment Tax		747	Lands Department	..	8,093
(f) Fines, etc.		13,213	Audit Department	..	5,294
IV. Fees of Office, etc.—			Public Treasury	..	5,404
(a) Fees of Office		23,784	Currency Commissioners	..	717
(b) Stamp Duties		53,327	Government Savings Bank	..	6,644
(c) Reimbursements-in-aid—			Immigration Department	..	305
(1) Medical		4,659	Collector General's Department	..	65,159
(2) Prisons, etc.		11,481	Post Office	..	77,342
(3) Debt Charges		154,478	Supreme Court	..	5,621
(4) Miscellaneous		18,940	Law Officers	..	3,987
(d) Irrigation Receipts		12,353	Kingston Court	..	1,594
V. Post Office	..	82,883	Resident Magistrates' Courts	..	31,875
VI. Rents	..	2,714	Administrator General's Office	..	6,372
VII. Interest	..	2,803	Medical—General Administration	..	42,372
VIII. Miscellaneous Receipts		26,548	“ Hospitals and Lepers' Home	..	56,430
IX. Land Sales	..	1,402	“ Lunatic Asylum	..	31,949
X. Colonial Development Fund		5,936	Constabulary	..	144,162
			Prisons	..	29,631
			Industrial	..	4,846
			Education	..	152,603
			Harbours and Pilotage	..	4,316
			Marine Board	..	857
			Imperial Forces Allowances	..	4,277
			Local Forces	..	5,774
			Registrar General and Island Record Office	..	6,147
			Registration of Titles	..	2,371
			Government Printing Office	..	11,479
			Board of Supervision	..	521
			Department of Science and Agriculture	..	33,150
			Agricultural Loan Societies Board	..	1,233
			Subventions	..	35,536
			Miscellaneous	..	125,722
			Railway	..	44,214
			Public Works Department	..	46,806
			“ “ Annually	..	242,399
			“ “ Recurrent	..	41,447
			“ “ Extraordinary	..	5,059
			Colonial Development Fund	..	5,059
Total		£1,549,622	Total		£1,536,055

227. The Assets and Liabilities at the 31st March, 1931, were £1,253,951 and £1,081,595, respectively. The year therefore closed with a surplus of £172,356. The following statement shows how the Assets of the Colony at the 31st March, 1931, are held:—

	£	s.	d.
Loans to Agricultural Loan Societies Board	33,821	8	4
Loans from Parochial Water Supplies Fund	6,515	9	9
Land Settlement Advances ..	13,899	11	4
Advances on account of Loans to be raised	349,979	0	10
Advances to Parochial Boards ..	46,333	6	0½
Stores Advances ..	110,655	18	11
General Advances ..	28,860	13	2½
Investments on account of Redemption Funds			
Guaranteed and unguaranteed by the Colony	153,680	9	10
Investments on account of Deposits for			
Investment ..	115,313	17	10
Investments on account of Trust Funds	29,694	7	11
Investments for Insurance Fund ..	218,642	12	3
Miscellaneous Investments ..	41,177	19	3
Imprests ..	51,473	15	10
Bank of Nova Scotia, New York ..	8,279	19	6
Emigration Agent, India ..	6,079	1	7
Collector General for Customs Revenue	641	4	0
Director, Jamaica Railway ..	4,133	8	6
Treasurer ..	34,768	14	5
	<hr/>		
	£1,253,950	19	4½
	<hr/>		

228. The Colony's Insurance Fund, which forms part of the Assets and is specially earmarked against earthquake, hurricane, or calamity of a like nature, amounted to £219,160 at the 31st March, 1931.

229. The amount of the Public Debt, chargeable on General Revenue, outstanding at the 31st March, 1931, was £5,117,444. The Sinking Funds for the redemption of the debt amounted to £2,325,906. If the amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Funds be deducted from the Public Debt, the difference £2,791,538, exceeds by only £572,927 the estimated Revenue for the financial year 1931-32. As most of the investments on account of the Sinking Funds have in recent years been made at rates varying from 5% to 6%, the accumulations of these funds will accrue in advance of the original calculations which were made at lower rates of interest.

230. For purposes of comparison, it may be interesting to append a tabulated statement of the incidence of the Public Debts of Great Britain and Jamaica in 1931:—

	Population.	National Debt.	Per Capita.
		£	£
Great Britain ..	45,000,000	7,582,892,661	168.5
		Public Debt.	
Jamaica ..	1,022,000	5,117,444	5

If the accumulation standing to the credit of the Jamaica Sinking Funds on the 31st March, 1931, viz.: £2,325,906, be deducted from the Public Debt at that date, the amount per capita would be £2 14s. 7d.

TAXATION.

231. A description of the main heads of taxation and the yield of each, in respect of the year ended the 31st March, 1931, are given hereunder:—

			£	s.	d.
i. CUSTOMS—	..	..	
Import Duties	..	..	1,087,927	0	0
Export Duties	..	..	27	11	1
ii. HARBOUR AND LIGHT DUES—					
Harbour Fees	..	..	4,635	16	7
Light Dues	..	..	5,996	8	2
iii. Licenses	..	..	44,037	8	10
Excise	..	..	260,006	15	8
Income Tax	..	..	96,826	18	9
Property Tax	..	..	81,652	8	4
Entertainment Tax	..	..	4,107	0	1
Fines in Petty Sessions	..	..	15,581	7	4
Surcharges	..	..	3,740	12	11
Stamp Duties	..	..	76,303	19	8½

232. *Customs Tariff.*—The general ad valorem duty is 20%, and the preferential rate is 15%, with slight variations in the duties on certain classes of goods, in addition to specific duties on articles falling chiefly under the headings of Food, Drink and Tobacco.

233. There is also a Free List consisting chiefly of goods for Government and the Parochial Boards, Coal, Manures, Fertilisers, Insecticides, etc., and Agricultural Implements.

234. *Excise Duties.*—The principal Excise Duties are on Cigars from 6d. to 2/- per 100 according to their value, and Rum 8/- per gallon.

235. *Stamp Duties.*—

- (1) Estate Duty is chargeable on the value of Real and Personal Property according to the graduated scale denoted in Section 1 of Law 15 of 1929, varying from 3% to 20%.
- (2) Legacy Duty is chargeable on all legacies at rates varying from 1% to 10%, according to the consanguinity of the legatee to the testator.
- (3) Succession Duty varies from 1% to 10%, according to the relationship to the predecessor.
- (4) In addition to these there are various Stamp Duties on Agreements, Bills of Exchange, Conveyances, Leases, etc.

236. There is no Hut Tax or Poll Tax collected in the Colony.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF FIJI FOR 1931

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MAP.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Colony of Fiji is situated in the Southern Pacific Ocean. The Fijian Group, which lies between latitude 15° and 22° south and between longitude 177° west and 175° east, comprises about 250 islands, of which about 80 are inhabited. The largest island is Vitilevu, which covers 4,053 square miles, the next in size being Vanualevu (2,128 square miles), Taveuni (166 square miles), and Kadavu (165 square miles). The islands of Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, lie between 12° and 15° south and 175° and 180° east. The total area of the Colony (including the islands of Rotuma) is 7,083 square miles, or nearly the size of Wales. Suva, the capital, is situated on the island of Vitilevu, and is distant 1,743 miles from Sidney, New South Wales, and 1,140 miles from Auckland, New Zealand.

The islands of Fiji owe their origin mainly to volcanic upheaval. There are, however, no active volcanoes in the Colony, although several of the high mountains, as for instance, Nabukelevu, on Kadavu, and the summit of the island of Taveuni, were formidable craters in past times. Hot springs are found in various localities throughout the islands.

The highest altitude reached in Fiji is that of Mount Victoria (4,550 feet), which is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the main mountain system of Vitilevu, the next highest on this island being Mount Pickering (3,550 feet), Muanivatu (4,000 feet), Mount Evans (4,020 feet), and Korobasabasaga (3,960 feet). The highest peak on Vanualevu rises to 3,437 feet, and on Taveuni to 4,040 feet.

Climate.

The climate is comparatively cool for the tropics, and there is no malaria.

Most of the islands of the Colony are practically surrounded by coral reefs. Between these reefs and the shore lies an extensive, if intricate, system of protected waterways, navigable by the smaller inter-insular trading vessels, with a number of excellent deep-water anchorages.

History.

Abel Jansen Tasman, a Dutch navigator, is generally credited with the discovery of the Fiji Islands in the year 1643. There is no doubt that he did come unexpectedly upon a few islands in the northern part of the Group; but there are very strong reasons for believing that one or more of the old Spanish navigators were here before him. The actual discovery is at present under investigation by research students; in the meantime the matter must be left in a state of uncertainty. Tasman's experiences among the reefs in the north of the Archipelago were so unhappy that, after the publication of his journal, navigators appear to have avoided the Group for over 130 years. Captain Cook made a survey of the island of Vatoa and the neighbouring waters in 1774. Bligh and Captain Wilson made important discoveries at a later time, and D'Urville made a fairly comprehensive though somewhat inaccurate chart of the islands and a few of the harbours of the Archipelago in his two voyages in 1827 and 1838. Commander Wilkes, who was in charge of the United States Exploring Expedition which visited the Group in 1840, completed a more reliable chart of its islands, reefs, and harbours, and published the results of his investigations a few years later. But, of necessity, there were many hidden dangers in those coral-strewn waters which could only be revealed later by men-of-war visiting the islands for survey purposes, and by traders plying between ports in different islands of the Group. Uncharted shoals are still found, and, where possible, surveyed by one of His Majesty's ships stationed in the Pacific.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth Fiji began to be visited by vessels from the East Indies, which came in search of sandalwood and bêche-de-mer for the Chinese market.

The inhabitants at that time, and indeed for many years afterwards, were regarded as ferocious savages, and in dealing with them traders had to exercise great caution. Several of the crews of these vessels, however, took up their residence on shore, and they may be regarded as having been the first white immigrants.

About the year 1808 there was wrecked on the reef off the island of Nairai the American brig *Eliza*, with 40,000 dollars from the River Plate. The greater part of the crew escaped, but two of them took passage in native canoes which happened at the time to be in the vicinity of the wreck. One landed at Bau and the other at Verata. The former, a Swede named Charles Savage, acquired great ascendancy in the Kingdom of Bau, where he taught the natives the use of fire-arms, thus affording them a considerable advantage in inter-tribal warfare. Other foreigners, for a similar reason, soon acquired a welcome in the several States which were then struggling for supremacy. An Irishman named Conner attained in Rewa a similar position to that of Savage in Bau. Savage died in March, 1814, near the island of Vanualevu, where he carried on a war with the natives for the purpose of procuring a cargo of sandalwood for an English trading vessel, the *Hunter* of Calcutta. Together with some of his crew he was killed and eaten, his bones being converted into needles and distributed amongst the people as a memento of victory.

The first missionaries to arrive in Fiji came from Tonga in October, 1835. They began their labours, at a time when the political state of Fiji was unknown, at Lakeba in the Lau (or Eastern) Group, which was a vassal State. By their attention to these lesser people they provoked the jealousy of the Chiefs of the neighbouring sovereign State of Cakaudrove; so that, later, when the missionaries extended their activities the Chiefs continued to oppose the spread of the new doctrine by all means in their power. Similarly, when the missionaries established themselves at Viwa, which lies close to Bau, and at Rewa, they experienced the same opposition. The whole influence of the Bauans, who, by their prowess in war, were then paramount, was exercised against the work of the mission, and it has been suggested that many atrocities were committed at Bau to prove to the missionaries operating from Viwa how little Bau was influenced by the religious change proceeding in other parts of the Group. Finally, in 1854, King Cakobau adopted Christianity, and heathenism was conquered. Cannibalism had for a long time played an important part in the ceremonials of the Fijian people; it was interwoven in the elements of society; and it was defeated only after long and hazardous missionary effort.

In 1858 the United States corvette *Vandalia* arrived in Levuka, and the Commander, Captain Sinclair, acting on behalf of his fellow-countrymen already settled in the Colony, preferred claims against Cakobau, as King of Fiji, amounting to 45,000 dollars. Cakobau induced Captain Sinclair to allow him 12 months in which to meet the demand. Interviews in respect of these claims between Cakobau and the British Consul led to an offer of the cession of the islands to Great Britain, on the condition that the American claims were paid by the British Government, for which payment, as a direct equivalent, certain land, "if required", was to be granted in fee simple, besides the general sovereignty of the whole Group. Subsequently, on 14th December, 1859, the Chiefs of Fiji "acknowledged, ratified, and renewed the offer of the cession of Fiji to Great Britain which had been made on 12th October, 1858." The offer was declined by Her Britannic Majesty's Government in 1862.

About this time, the shortage in the world supplies of cotton caused by the American Civil War, led to an influx of Europeans into Fiji for the purpose of cotton cultivation, and in June, 1871, the settlers endeavoured to establish a settled form of government with the principal Bauan Chief, Cakobau, as King of Fiji. A Constitution was agreed upon and a Parliament was elected, but it was not long before the Parliament and the Government drifted into mutual hostility, and latterly the Ministry governed without the aid of a Parliament.

In both Australia and England the annexation of Fiji had been urged since 1869, and in August, 1873, the Earl of Kimberley commissioned Commodore Goodenough, commanding the squadron on the Australian Station, and Mr. E. L. Layard, then Her Majesty's Consul in Fiji, to investigate and report on the matter. The Commissioners, on 21st March, 1874, reported the offer of the sovereignty of the islands from the Chiefs, with the assent of the Europeans, but on certain terms which were not acceptable, and Sir Hercules Robinson, then Governor of New South Wales, was despatched to Fiji in September, 1874, to negotiate.

The Mission was completely successful, and the sovereignty of the islands was ceded to the Crown by Cakobau, the Chief of Bau, Maafu, who was the Chief of the Lau Confederacy, and the other principal Chiefs, in a Deed of Cession dated 10th October, 1874. A Charter was shortly afterwards issued by Her Majesty Queen Victoria creating the islands a separate Colony and providing for their government as a Crown Colony.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

Constitution of the Government.

The Constitution is regulated by Letters Patent dated 9th February, 1929. The Governor is advised by an Executive Council consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the

Colonial Treasurer as *ex officio* members, three other official and two nominated unofficial members.

The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, thirteen nominated members, six European elected members, three native members, and three Indian elected members. The nominated members must be persons holding public office in the Colony. There is thus an official majority of one.

The European members are elected by persons of European descent, who are British subjects, and are possessed of a small property or income qualification.

The native members are selected by the Governor from a list submitted every three years by the Great Council of Native Chiefs.

The qualifications required of electors of the Indian members are that they must be British subjects, of Indian descent, and able to pass a simple test either in English or in one of the five main Indian languages spoken in the Colony; there is also a small property or income qualification.

The English Common Law and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England in the year 1875, when the Colony obtained a local legislature, extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and are subject to modification by Colonial Ordinances. Certain other later Acts of the Imperial Parliament have been applied to the Colony by local Ordinances.

Local Government.

Under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance of 1909 the administration of the towns of Suva and Levuka is in the hands of Municipal Councils elected by the rate-payers. The Municipal Councils have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health, markets, slaughter-houses, traffic regulations, building construction, and the control of places and streets within the towns. Their revenues are mainly derived from Government grants, licences, and rates.

The Townships Ordinance, 1928, gives the Government power to declare any area, not being a town constituted under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance, 1909, to be a township. The Ordinance is administered by a Township Board, whose chief duty is to exercise control over the sanitary conditions of the township. There are two proclaimed townships in the Colony, Nausori in the district of Rewa and Namoli in the district of Lautoka.

The Central Board of Health, which is composed of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor, administers the Public Health Ordinance of 1911, and is empowered to make regulations in regard to the carrying out of the Ordinance. The Colony is divided into urban and rural sanitary districts, in which local authorities, subject to the control of the Central Board of

Health, administer the Public Health Ordinance in their respective districts.

In each of the country districts there is a Road Board, under the Chairmanship of the District Commissioner, who is responsible for the maintenance of the roads in that district. General control over the work and the expenditure of Road Boards is exercised by the Central Road Board, which consists of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor.

The system of native local administration is referred to later under Chapter XIV, Native Affairs.

Languages.

English is the ordinary official language of the Colony. From the many Fijian dialects that of Bau has been adopted as the official language. Bauan is understood by all and can be spoken by most Fijians. In Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, with a population of over 2,000, an entirely different language is spoken, which contains words found in the languages of all the adjacent island groups, including Japanese. Among the Indians, who number 75,000, a form of Hindustani which pays little attention to grammar is most generally used, although Tamil, Telegu, Malayalam, and Canarese languages or dialects are also spoke by former immigrants from the Madras Province and their families. Hindustani is spoken by the majority of these as a second language, and it is probable that in the course of time a form of Hindustani will become the common language of the Indian community in Fiji. The Chinese population of over 1,500 speaks Cantonese.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of Fiji was on 31st December, 1931, made up as follows:—

Europeans, 5,058; half-castes, 3,446; Fijians, 93,414; Polynesians, 1,883; Indians, 76,722; Rotumans, 2,407; Chinese, 1,441; Others, 1,202; making a total population of 185,573. Of this total, Fijians comprised 50.28 per cent., Indians 41.34 per cent., and Europeans 2.73 per cent. The estimated population shows an increase of 28,307 since the census of 1921, or an aggregate rate of increase of 17.99 per cent. For the first time for many years there has been an estimated decrease in the European population.

On 31st December, 1931, it was estimated that there were 24.95 persons to the square mile.

The Rotuman population is confined almost wholly to the island of Rotuma, in which the native population amounts to 171.93 to the square mile.

There were 6,297 births registered during the year, which is a decrease of 183 on the previous year. The following table shows the rate per thousand of the population for the years 1925 to 1931.

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Europeans ...	16.68	18.16	24.78	17.42	19.88	16.94	17.20
Half-castes ...	29.65	31.91	23.08	32.56	35.96	30.30	43.82
Fijians ...	32.29	33.95	32.53	33.36	31.91	36.43	35.34
Rotumans ...	56.97	48.95	50.57	52.21	50.75	54.91	46.95
Indians ...	33.14	32.65	27.72	34.90	34.86	36.02	33.45

The Rotuman birth-rate is below normal while the half-caste birth-rate shows a substantial increase on previous years.

There were 3,045 deaths registered during the year, which is 1,006 less than in 1930. The following table shows the death-rate per thousand of the population for the years 1925 to 1931 :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Europeans ...	9.08	9.32	9.60	7.62	8.46	9.45	9.09
Half-castes ...	7.33	12.69	7.37	9.39	9.44	14.70	11.03
Fijians ...	22.75	23.09	22.98	24.95	24.66	31.24	22.22
Rotumans ...	64.38	29.29	36.29	51.77	48.10	27.03	14.54
Indians ...	7.25	8.26	9.42	10.80	9.06	12.30	10.19

The following table shows the deaths under one year per thousand births :—

<i>European.</i>	<i>Half-castes.</i>	<i>Fijians.</i>	<i>Indians.</i>	<i>Rotumans.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
34.44	33.11	113.30	76.77	44.25	94.33

The following table shows the number of marriages registered during the years 1925 to 1931 :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Europeans ...	28	38	34	47	46	33	38
Half-castes ...	22	14	16	41	28	21	18
Fijians ...	857	708	760	906	973	744	1,085
Rotumans ...	23	37	28	11	27	15	29
Indians ...	174	195	254	276	879	1,926	954

The marriage-rate per thousand of the population is set out in the following table :—

<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Half-castes.</i>	<i>Fijians.</i>	<i>Rotumans.</i>	<i>Indians.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
7.51	5.22	11.61	12.05	12.43	11.67

There were 1,085 Fijian marriages registered during the year, being the highest number on record for this class of the population. The number of Fijian marriages registered during the previous year was 744. The number of Indian marriages registered for the year was 954 as compared with 1,926 for the previous year.

A return of the population and of the marriages, births, and deaths is appended.

Return of Population as ascertained at the Census of 24th April, 1921.

Class of Population.	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.		Population to the Square Mile.		Persons employed in		Births.		Marriages.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			Agri- culture.	Manu- facture and Industrial, Commercial.	Number	Rate per 1,000.	Number	Rate per 1,000.	Number	Rate per 1,000.
Europeans { Fiji ...	2,274	1,574	—	—	{ 3,878		0.52	—	412	379	1,905	—	—	—	—	—
Rotuma { Fiji ...	23	7	—	—	{ 2,781		0.37	—	144	395	583	—	—	—	—	—
Half-castes { Fiji ...	—	—	1,425	1,304	{ 84,475		11.37	—	2,285*	845*	253*	—	—	—	—	—
Rotumans ...	—	—	29	23	{ 2,235		0.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fijians ...	—	—	44,022	40,453	{ 1,129		8.17	—	19,433	3,179	1,244	—	—	—	—	—
Rotumans ...	—	—	1,129	1,106	{ 60,634		0.21	—	335	501	389	—	—	—	—	—
Indians ...	—	—	37,015	23,619	{ 1,564		0.12	—	129	92	6	—	—	—	—	—
† Polynesians... ..	—	—	1,271	293	{ 910		0.10	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chinese ...	—	—	845	65	{ 789		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others ...	—	—	431	358	{ 157,286		21.16	—	22,738	5,400	4,390	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2,297	1,581	86,167	67,221	{ 157,286		21.16	—	22,738	5,400	4,390	—	—	—	—	—

Estimated Population at 31st December, 1931.

Class of Population.	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.		Population to the Square Mile.		Persons employed in		Births.		Marriages.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			Agri- culture.	Manu- facture and Industrial, Commercial.	Number	Rate per 1,000.	Number	Rate per 1,000.	Number	Rate per 1,000.
Europeans ...	2,638	2,420	—	—	{ 5,058		.68	—	—	—	87	17.20	38	46	9.09	—
Half-castes ...	—	—	1,774	1,672	{ 3,446		.46	—	—	—	151	43.82	18	38	11.03	—
Fijians ...	—	—	47,962	45,452	{ 93,414		12.51	—	—	—	3,301	35.34	1,085	2,076	22.22	—
Rotumans ...	—	—	1,195	1,212	{ 2,407		171.93	—	—	—	113	46.95	29	35	14.54	—
Indians ...	—	—	45,644	31,078	{ 76,722		10.31	—	—	—	2,566	33.45	954	782	10.19	—
† Polynesians... ..	—	—	1,317	566	{ 1,883		.25	—	—	—	41	21.77	14	29	15.40	—
Chinese ...	—	—	1,319	122	{ 1,441		.19	—	—	—	16	11.10	—	8	5.55	—
Others... ..	—	—	792	410	{ 1,202		.16	—	—	—	22	18.30	28	31	25.79	—
Totals ...	2,638	2,420	100,003	80,512	{ 185,573		24.95	—	—	—	6,297	33.93	2,166	3,045	16.41	—

* Figures relate to Fijians living in Magisterial Districts apart from Native Villages.

† "Polynesians" is here used to define immigrants introduced into this Colony under the Polynesian Immigration Ordinance, 1888, and their offspring.

POPULATION OF SUVA MUNICIPALITY.

<i>Class of population.</i>	<i>Number of taxpayers.</i>	<i>Population census 1921.</i>	<i>Estimated population 31st March, 1932.</i>
Europeans	690	1,436	1,918
Half-castes	206	395	939
Fijians	—	872	1,500
Indians	2,234	3,040	4,557
Chinese	261	278	311
Others (estimated) ...	120	385	600
	<hr/> 3,511 <hr/>	<hr/> 6,406 <hr/>	<hr/> 9,825 <hr/>

POPULATION OF SUVA SUBURBS.

Europeans	317	700
Half-castes	189	350
Fijians	1,109	2,000
Indians	4,206	5,500
Chinese	56	70
Others (estimated) ...	250	300
	<hr/> 6,127 <hr/>	<hr/> 8,920 <hr/>
Total population—Suva and Suburbs	<hr/> 12,533 <hr/>	<hr/> 18,745 <hr/>

POPULATION OF LEVUKA AND SUBURBS.

Europeans	172	414	454
Half-castes	110	411	619
Fijians (estimated) ...	—	250	250
Indians	212	1,016	454
Chinese	123	102	146
Others	94	286	94
	<hr/> 711 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,479 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,017 <hr/>

Immigration and Emigration.

Immigration is controlled by the Immigrants Ordinance of 1909 and strict supervision is exercised by the Constabulary to prevent destitute and undesirable immigrants arriving in the Colony.

Emigration of Fijians (including Rotumans) and of Indian and Polynesian immigrants is regulated by the Emigrants Ordinance of 1892.

Under the provisions of the Indian Immigrants (Repatriation) Ordinance of 1930, Indians introduced into the Colony under the provisions of any previous Indian Immigration Ordinance and who were at the time of introduction above the age of 12 years, and children of such immigrants, under certain circumstances, are entitled to repatriation to India.

The following are statistics of emigration and immigration in 1931.

EMIGRATION—1931.

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Departures.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Europeans ...	1,601	5,078	31.33
Indians ...	614	75,117	.817
Chinese ...	135	1,503	8.98
Others ...	94	1,197	7.85

IMMIGRATION—1931.

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Arrivals.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Europeans ...	582	5,078	11.45
Indians ...	334	75,117	.444
Chinese ...	40	1,503	2.66
Others ...	56	1,197	4.67

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population at the end of December, 1931, was 185,573, including Fijians 93,414, Indians 76,722, and Europeans 5,058. The total death-rate per thousand was 16.41, as against 22.19 in 1930, a decrease of 5.78. The Fijian death-rate was 22.22, a decrease of 9.02 over the previous year. The mortality-rate of the Indian population was 10.19 showing a decrease of 1.11. The birth-rate for the Colony was 33.93, a decrease of 1.56 over the year 1930.

Medical Service.

The Fiji Medical Service consists of eighteen Medical Officers under the direct control of a Chief Medical Officer. A highly qualified bacteriologist is stationed at Suva and has charge of a bacteriological laboratory which is attached to the Colonial War Memorial Hospital. This institution, which is a well-equipped building with 120 beds, an operating theatre and X-ray plant, caters for all classes of the community and is also a Nurses' Training School. The Australian Nursing Association accepts the prescribed course of training and grants its Nursing Diploma to candidates who have passed the necessary examinations. The Medical and

Nursing Staffs consist of a Medical Superintendent and an Assistant Medical Superintendent, a Matron and four trained Sisters, and twelve European probationer nurses. In addition, there are twenty-four native nurses in training.

The Central Medical School, an enlargement of the old Medical School, is situated in the hospital grounds. It consists of lecture rooms, museum, laboratory, and an anatomical department. The students' dormitory is situated close to the School, and has accommodation for forty students. The Rockefeller Foundation granted the sum of £8,000 for the erection and maintenance of the School. The teaching staff consists of a whole-time tutor and fourteen lecturers and demonstrators. The following students registered at the School during 1931 :—19 Fijians, 4 Samoans, 5 Tongans, 2 Cook Islanders, 5 Gilbert and Ellice Islanders, 2 Solomon Islanders, 1 Indian, and 2 from the New Hebrides, making a total of 40. It will thus be seen that the Central Medical School receives students from practically the whole of the Western Pacific Group of Islands. The course of instruction in the past was a three years' one, but it was thought advisable, owing to the increase in size of the syllabus, to extend the course to four years. December, 1931, closed, with very satisfactory results, the first year under the new four years' course system. After graduating, these students receive diplomas as native medical practitioners and are then posted to a country district, or attached to a hospital under a European Medical Officer. A subordinate Medical Service has thus been created consisting in Fiji of 50 native medical practitioners, and four Indian medical practitioners.

The problem of leprosy, a disease which is very prevalent in the Pacific Islands, is being very thoroughly tackled in Fiji. On the island of Makogai there is a most modern and up-to-date institution. The staff consists of a Medical Superintendent, an Assistant Medical Superintendent, a Lay Superintendent, and 13 European, and 9 Fijian Roman Catholic Sisters. Cases of leprosy, irrespective of race, are compulsorily segregated in this hospital, which also receives lepers from New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, and the Cook Islands.

The control of health matters and sanitation in the country is vested in the hands of 14 District Medical Officers, 50 native medical practitioners, and 4 Indian medical practitioners. There are 3 European Sanitary Inspectors, one of whom is at present seconded to the Rockefeller Foundation and is in charge of an ankylostomiasis campaign. There are also 5 Indian Sanitary Inspectors.

A most complete and thorough system of hospitalization prevails throughout the Colony. The following centres have general hospitals :—Levuka, Lautoka, Nadi, and Ra. There is also an Indian Women's Hospital at Ba, which is conducted by the Methodist Mission and subsidized by the Government, which also subsidizes cottage hospitals for Europeans at Ba and Taveuni.

Child Welfare.

The Child welfare scheme was instituted in the Colony under Nurse Suckling in the year 1927. This nurse is a European trained specially for this work in New Zealand. In the year 1928 Dr. Regina Roberts, the wife of the American Consul, undertook this work in the villages within reach of Suva. This lady is a qualified doctor, who initiated and carried out very successfully a similar scheme in Samoa. A great deal of enthusiasm is being shown by the natives in this work, upon which they have realized that the future of their race depends. In practically every village throughout the Colony village child welfare committees have been started, each of which is responsible to the welfare worker of the district. In the year 1928 the work was transferred from the Medical Department to the Native Department. It has grown steadily since, and to-day there are six European trained nurses doing infant-welfare work in various parts of Fiji. In addition, these European nurses are assisted by ten specially trained native obstetric nurses.

Health and Sanitation.

The health of the Colony, taken as a whole, has been satisfactory, with the exception of a mild epidemic of Shiga dysentery during the first half of the year, and mild influenza during the last quarter of the year. The increased interest shewn by the Government and local authorities in public health matters has continued, and marked improvements in general cleanliness and sanitary conditions are noticeable in both urban and rural areas.

Meteorological.

The rainfall was 122.60 inches as against 102.22 inches for 1930. Good rains fell throughout the year, and the water-supplies were well maintained. A severe hurricane visited the Group in February and caused considerable damage to property and food crops, and was attended with heavy loss of life through the unprecedented flooding of rivers in certain districts.

Infectious Diseases.

Dysentery.—This disease was fairly prevalent during the first half of the year, but tailed off with the advent of the cool season.

Total incidence for the Colony.—

	<i>Cases.</i>						
1930	698
1931	787
Increase	89

Monthly incidence.—

		1st half 1931.	2nd half 1931.	Monthly rate. Per cent.
Urban Suva	...	22	5	1.3
Rural Suva	...	49	15	1.5
Other districts	...	518	178	

Racial Incidence.—

Europeans 31, Fijians 381, Indians 330, Half-castes 22.

It will be observed from the above figures that the incidence and the mortality rates are much lower this year for the urban and rural areas of Suva, a fact which may be attributed to the excellent work being done by the sanitary campaign started at the end of 1930. The virulence of the disease, judging by the death-rate, was much milder than in the 1929 epidemic. The control of this disease is extremely difficult owing to the mixed nature of the population, and the conditions under which most of the people live. It would appear that the gradual establishment of fixed standards of sanitation in regard to latrines, of better methods for the disposal of garbage, of a purer water and milk supply, of better housing, of improved protection of food from flies, together with the inclusion of information on sanitary matters in school curricula, and the enforcement of these improved standards should go a long way towards reducing the incidence of this disease in these islands.

Typhoid.—Of the 107 cases of enteric notified for the year, 4 came from the Suva urban area, 4 from the Suva rural area, and 99 cases from other parts of the Colony. The low incidence (only 2 cases) of this disease in the Rewa district is noteworthy, as in this district it was endemic for years. This result is to be attributed to the mass inoculation of the population with T.A.B. vaccine annually. It would appear advisable that these mass inoculations should be continued in that district until such time as the water-supply, which is mainly surface wells, and the soil sanitation are improved.

Diphtheria.—Cases of sore throat with mild fever and suggestive tonsillitis were investigated at the Boys' Grammar School during May. Throat swabs were negative to the K.L.B. tests, but among the immediate contacts, two gave positive results and were isolated at the hospital.

Influenza.—This disease is endemic, but assumed epidemic form during the last quarter and spread throughout the Colony. Severe pulmonary complications were few, and the death-rate was small.

Trachoma.—The percentage incidence of this disease for the Colony has not been so far definitely settled. This disease has been notifiable since 1929, and powers to isolate have been provided. The chronic nature of the disease and the prolonged and tedious course of treatment, usually a year, are factors against

isolation from the point of view of cost of maintenance, and the hardship inflicted on the people through being kept away from their homes for such a length of time. Arrangements are being made for a campaign against this distressing disease, and the Education and Native Departments have been invited to co-operate. With regard to the racial incidence, over 75 per cent. of cases of eye trouble occur among the Fijians. Whether or not all these cases are pure trachoma is a matter of doubt, as there is a great deal of chronic conjunctivitis among the Fijian race due to their habit of sitting at night in their houses which are full of smoke from their fires. The whole question of eye trouble in the Colony is at present receiving the attention of the Medical Department.

Food Control.

Dairies and milk.—There are twenty-five registered dairies in the Colony. Bi-monthly inspections have been made by the Sanitary Inspectors, who report that the premises are being maintained to a reasonable standard. Compliance with by-laws made under the Public Health Ordinance require all bovine animals on registered dairy premises to be annually tested for tuberculosis at Government expense. An interesting report on the work of testing cattle for tuberculosis was submitted by the Senior Veterinary Officer to the Central Board of Health, in which he states that, of the 1,108 animals tested, 154 reactors were found and 47 were classified as doubtful. The percentage of infected cattle was 13.9 per cent. The segregation of these infected cattle, as required by the by-laws, is presenting some difficulties and this problem is at present receiving consideration.

Milk depot.—The question of a milk depot has been under consideration by the Central Board of Health, and a special committee has been appointed to investigate and report on the feasibility of such a scheme. There is no doubt that there is the urgent need for a depot, in view of the prevalence of dysentery, typhoid, and tuberculosis, and the possibility of undulant fever being endemic.

Anti-mosquito measures.—The gang employed on this work, as part of the anti-mosquito campaign, started last year, but, unfortunately, owing to shortage of funds, its operations had to be stopped last April. The valuable work that was done up till then, in the way of weeding, cleaning, improving surface drainage, and cementing tree holes, will without doubt result in a certain amount of benefit to the community. An interesting experiment in this work has been the introduction of the *Megarrhinus* mosquito from Java, and the releasing of colonies of these mosquitoes in different districts. As these mosquitoes feed on the larvae of mosquitoes, a great reduction in the number of the *Aedes* mosquito is anticipated.

Anti-fly measures.—Towards the end of March colonies of Mesendrina and Meridiana were liberated. These flies live on cow dung and the maggots of the house fly present in cow dung, and it is hoped that they will constitute an active agent in the reduction of house flies breeding around dairies, etc. The reduction in numbers of the house fly, at the gaol, asylum, depot, and the other main institutions has been noticeable during the year, probably in the most part due, however, to the high standard of sanitation that is being enforced.

Health Exhibit.—A health exhibit section was held at the Annual Show, drawing attention to matters affecting the public health. Amongst the many interesting items was a moving picture show held every half hour. Eleven public health films on various subjects were obtained from Samoa, New Zealand, and Australia, and eighteen displays were given. The attendance on the first day averaged 250, and on the second day pupils of the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools and the Convent attended. There were also exhibits of flies and mosquitoes, and an instructive lecture was given on child welfare.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The housing conditions prevailing in Suva for the labouring classes have been in the past far from satisfactory. Houses and tenements have been erected in many of the poorer class districts without regard to proper access, drainage, or ventilation. The question of housing has exercised the minds of the health authorities for some time, and in October, 1930, new building regulations were brought into force which, to say the least, are 100 per cent. in advance of those previously in force. They provide, amongst other things, for better sites, alignment, drainage, access, sanitation, ventilation, and materials used in construction in all classes of buildings, commercial and residential. Before a new building can be erected or any alterations made to existing buildings, a notice of such intention must be submitted to the Municipal Council, accompanied by proper plans for their approval. The main business part of the town, which has certain defined boundaries, is known as the "inner area" and all new buildings or alterations in this area must be in concrete. No longer can land be sub-divided up at the wish of the owner for building purposes, until approved by the Town Council, and such sub-division must be according to approved plans. The majority of residential buildings in the urban area are of wood and iron. Main institutions, however, such as schools and a few commercial buildings, are constructed of concrete. The rural area of Suva has always been a source of anxiety to the Central Board of Health owing to the defective sanitary conditions, and was nearly always subject to periodic epidemics of dysentery. In 1930 the Governor appointed a committee, which

made certain recommendations, and, as a result, a vigorous campaign has been carried out in this area. This work was commenced in November, 1930, and already marked improvements are noticeable. Occupied premises not provided with sufficient sanitary accommodation have been reduced from 90 per cent. to less than 3 per cent. Fully 90 per cent. of existing latrines were found not to come up to the required standard and were condemned. In the majority of cases these latrines were replaced by the installation of the cement slab type, over flank-shaped excavations, varying in depth from 12 feet to 20 feet. This aims at the prevention of fly-breeding and mosquito-breeding, and at minimizing the spread of hookworm infection.

In order to facilitate house-to-house inspection, cards of the Rockefeller international design were made out for each house. In addition to first inspections, these cards contain a record of all subsequent action taken, such as the service of notices, etc. In addition, metal number plates have been affixed to each dwelling bearing the same number as the appropriate record card filed in the Health Office. This survey also covers other sanitary matters such as water-supply, surface drainage, and general cleanliness.

Dwelling-house By-laws.—These new by-laws were made by the local authority for rural Suva and came into force early in 1931, and are without doubt a marked improvement on the previous ones in force. They provide for access, site, drainage, air space, clearing of bush around houses, ventilation, height of walls, size of rooms, and sanitary accommodation. Notice of intention to erect is compulsory, and upon completion and before occupation, a certificate is necessary that the building has been erected according to law. The strict enforcement of these by-laws, more particularly the above, has brought about a very marked improvement in the type of house that is now being erected.

Structure of Buildings.—Of the 1,804 premises inspected during the campaign, 469 were constructed of grass, 382 of wood, 946 of tin, and 7 of concrete.

Distribution of population.—The average number of people per dwelling throughout this district is about 4.7 Indian, 3.0 European, 4.0 Fijian and 2.6 Chinese, but there is a certain amount of overcrowding of individual premises, chiefly in respect of houses let in lodgings.

Housing in Suva.

The wage-earning population of Suva, other than the European section employed by business houses, is drawn from several races, with Indians and Fijians predominating. Unskilled daily labourers' wages vary from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per day, rising to £4 to £8 per month for semi-skilled mechanics, carpenters, and principal domestic servants. Skilled carpenters and mechanics may receive up to 15s. per day. The more highly paid individuals in many

cases own their own dwellings and in some cases also the land on which they are built, but more generally the land is held under leasehold tenure. The large majority of the wage-earners in manual employment dwell in tenement houses, each individual with his family, if any, occupying a room or rooms and sharing the cooking and sanitary facilities provided.

Tenement houses are in most cases leased by one tenant from the landlord or owner for somewhat high rentals and each room is sub-let by him for about four or five shillings rent per week. Prior to the provision of a modern sewerage system within the municipality, sanitary arrangements were usually crude and inadequate and there was overcrowding. The primitive habits of the majority of the residents made betterment difficult.

Following the completion of a water-borne sewerage system some years ago, and the enactment of new building regulations by the Municipal Council in 1930, considerable progress has been made in the proper disposal of sewerage and refuse, and the improvement of living conditions in existing buildings. Any new buildings are required to be built in conformity with standard requirements. The regulations are being firmly administered.

House and room rents are commonly considered as high, but in accounting for this it is necessary to take into consideration the enhanced value of land in or adjacent to the business section of the town, the high cost of imported building materials, and of skilled labour, the possibility of damage by storms, and the heavy depreciation due to climatic conditions, especially as affecting buildings of wooden construction, insurance, and by no means least, municipal taxation.

Outside the business section of the town, the utilization of land for residential purposes is proceeding slowly in large measure, on account of the hilly nature of the terrain in and around the municipality, which renders the cost of roading and opening up new areas very heavy. Such expenditure is only very slowly being incurred by the municipality and by land owners, on account of the prevailing economic situation.

East Indians, in many cases, build their homes on the time-payment system. Where such dwellings are occupied wholly by their owners or partly by their owners and partly by tenants, the improvements, from a sanitary standpoint, are remarkable as compared with tenement buildings owned by landlords who do not reside on the premises. Sanitary conveniences, of fly-proof type, are being insisted upon by the health authorities in areas beyond the reach of the main sewerage system. Old and inadequate conveniences are being replaced and a strict inspection of all new buildings is made to ensure that builders and contractors adhere to the provisions of the health and building regulations.

Economic conditions have hitherto precluded the formation of Building or Starr-Bowkett Societies, and building activities are dependent on private capital.

The Government, as owner of some 320 acres of land situated about three-quarters of a mile north of the Suva Municipality, has commenced thereon a comprehensive scheme of improvement by proper subdivision, by roading, and by the provision of a main water-supply. This area is largely occupied by East Indians, most of whom find employment in Suva. New houses in this area must be constructed in accordance with the health regulations, and the owners of old houses are required to effect improvements and otherwise conform with the requirements of the regulations. Unfortunately the present state of the Colony's finances precludes any large expenditure on the scheme.

Housing of Fijians.

The Fijian natives at the end of 1931, numbered 93,414, about 50.03 per cent. of the total population of the Colony. Every Fijian is a member of a land-owning tribal unit and has sufficient agricultural land to grow the food crops necessary for the support of himself and his family. As there is no absolute necessity for him to work for wages in order to support himself there is no such thing as a labouring class of Fijians dependent for their living on their earnings as labourers. Until comparatively recently the Fijians in their villages lived invariably in thatched houses, each married man being provided with a separate house erected by communal labour. As regards single men in some cases a number of these share a house and in other cases they live with their parents. As the land is owned by the people, no question of rental arises. The houses are of attractive appearance, cool, comfortable and reasonably healthy, but require to be rebuilt at fairly frequent intervals. This imposes a heavy burden on the villagers, particularly as, as is often the case, the man-power of a village is depleted owing to a number of able-bodied men having left a village to earn money for the erection of a church, the building of a boat, the installation of a water-supply, or for some other similar object of common benefit. Of late years there has been a growing desire for wood and iron buildings and an increasing number of these are being built. Houses built of wood and iron last longer without attention and offer greater resistance to the gales which often visit the islands during the hot season. With limited resources at their command it has been impossible for the Fijians to build sufficiently large houses of this character to ensure health and comfort. It is recognized, however, that a change in the type of house occupied by Fijians is necessary and the advent of the wood and iron building has been encouraged by Government as a stepping stone to something better. Every endeavour is now being made to improve the new type of building. For example, a recent Native Regulation provides that a side wall must be at least 9 feet in height, and further the people are encouraged to put wooden ceilings in their houses, under the corrugated iron roof. In 1930 a committee was appointed to consider

the question of an improved type of building suitable for present-day requirements and having regard to the finances of the people. As regards roofing material, experiments with locally made shingles are now being carried out and it is hoped that shingles may provide a suitable and cool roof that will last a sufficiently long time to justify the initial expenditure on their purchase which will probably be somewhat greater than that involved by the corrugated iron roofing. On the sugar estates married men are generally housed in separate wood and iron buildings of comfortable dimensions and single men are given quarters in a building divided into separate rooms, each of which is large enough to accommodate three or four persons. The housing on the copra plantations is of the same type but not always of so high a standard as that found on the sugar estates. On the smaller plantations thatched houses are generally provided, of sufficient size to accommodate in comfort the number of persons required to be housed. The provision of adequate accommodation for labourers on all plantations is required by law.

Housing for Indians in rural parts.

Apart from the few small townships and "bazaars" in the Colony the rural Indian population may be said to be housed approximately half in corrugated iron buildings and half in thatched buildings. Except in the townships and "bazaars" where a number of Indians live in buildings rented from landlords, the great mass of the Indian population lives in houses which are the property of the head of the family which is in occupation and have been built by him on his own small holding leased to him by the Government on behalf of the native owners.

The thatched houses vary very considerably in standard of comfort which depends to a considerable extent on the kind of thatching material available. In some rice centres where rice straw is available the thatched houses attain a high standard and are comfortable and clean. A number of the farmers use clay plaster on their walls and floors and in some localities a very convenient and safe type of rice barn has been evolved. The main defect of the Indian type of house is that Indians generally do not adopt the practice followed by the Fijians of raising their floors above ground level. On the other hand the light Indian thatch suffers far less damage from a severe hurricane than the heavy Fijian bure. The Indian hut is more easily re-erected and there is less damage to house property when it falls.

With regard to the corrugated iron type of house, a model type of cottage has been evolved in a number of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's settlements where material has been available, and some overseers and tenants take considerable pride in keeping these neat and clean. The material used is mostly obtained from dismantled labour lines and stables. The old type of long building, used as lines for a number of families, is now largely replaced by separate cottages, both at mill centres and in the districts.

Generally speaking, outside the areas in which the Colonial Sugar Refining Company operates the standard of housing is improving steadily and the sales to Indians of timber by the local Nadarivatu Timber Company for roofing and other housing purposes are increasing rapidly.

It is rare to find a completely satisfactory kitchen in the corrugated iron type of house. It has not yet been possible to evolve a type of kitchen flue wholly suitable for Indian cooking purposes. A number of the kitchens are begrimed with smoke and complaints of damage to eyes are not uncommon. The Sugar Company, apart from its use of old material which is available, is now stocking cottage material, iron sheeting, and timber frame work of a standard pattern. The price at which this can be made available by the Company effects a material reduction in the cost of housing.

Where the family and its stock and gear are housed mainly under thatches it is not unusual to find a separate building of timber and corrugated iron erected for the protection of valuable property owing to the risk of damage by fire in the case of thatched buildings.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Sugar.

The production of sugar, which is entirely controlled by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, is the principal industry of the Colony. Although the Company cultivates a number of its own plantations it has been its policy to encourage the production of cane by growers whose crops are purchased under contracts providing for a price per ton which fluctuates in accordance with the sugar content as determined when the cane is crushed. Under these conditions approximately 85 per cent. of the cane grown is produced by East Indians, principally tenant farmers working on land leased from the Company. Fijians, under the guidance of officers of the Company, are taking increased interest in cane production for supply to the mills.

The year 1931 will long be remembered as one of the most disastrous in the history of the Colony as far as sugar production is concerned. The industry not only suffered from the uneconomic low level of prices ruling in the world's markets, but in February all the sugar growing districts on Vitilevu, where there are four factories, were visited by a severe hurricane and by floods which caused heavy loss of life and property, and seriously damaged the cane crops. It is difficult to estimate the direct and indirect losses arising out of this visitation, but they cannot have been far short of £400,000.

The actual quantity of sugar exported during 1931 was much below normal and was sold in the following markets :—

						<i>Tons.</i>
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	7,122
Canada	...	...	...	...	...	54,340
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	...	5,897
Others	...	...	...	...	...	578
Total ...						67,937

In spite of the setback caused by floods and hurricane, the crop prospects for 1932 are good, subject to favourable weather conditions being experienced. This is due to the energy with which the cane growers set about reconditioning their farms. There is, however, little prospect of higher values being realized until the world demand for sugar rises to equality with the production.

The Company operates five factories, four of which are situated on the island of Vitilevu and one on the island of Vanualevu.

Particulars of area cropped, etc., for the last statistical year, viz., 1st July, 1930, to 30th June, 1931, are :—

Area cropped	...	...	...	...	38,789 acres.
Cane crushed	...	...	...	...	663,473 tons.
Sugar produced	...	...	...	...	92,134 tons.

Copra.

Including a shipment of 402 tons made from Rotuma in December, 1931, the total export of copra during the year amounted to 17,318 tons compared with 23,882 tons in 1930, and 33,226 tons in 1929. The fall in production is almost entirely due to the effects of drought in 1930, and the adverse weather conditions experienced early in the year, although, to an extent, low market prices discouraged some non-European growers from making copra.

Production is organized both on a system of individual estates of varying sizes and owned by Europeans which produce approximately one-half of the total exports of the Colony, and also on a system of communal ownership by Fijians.

Following the decline in market prices growers have considerably reduced production costs and they are now better fitted to meet low price levels than ever before in the history of the industry. The low prices realized and the reduced output already referred to have, however, limited essential estate operations such as weeding.

Cattle are bred on most of the European-owned estates where, grazed amongst the trees, they keep down the growth of edible plants as well as provide a meat ration for the labourers.

Fijians are employed under annual contracts to a large extent on coconut plantations. Employers are required to provide accommodation, clothing, and rations for the men, and it is estimated

that the total cost per annum for contracts made in 1931, including recruiting fees, is approximately £28 per unit.

The Coconut Committee continued the investigation of pests of coco-nuts during the year, attention being concentrated on the control of the spathe boring moth, *tirathaba trichogramma*. It is now proposed to proceed with control measures in regard to the leaf mining beetle, *promecotheca reichei*. Work on this insect, undertaken in Java in 1930, is to be continued by one of the entomologists attached to the Committee who arrived at Buitenzorg, Java, at the end of 1931.

Coco-nut inspectors employed by the Committee continued the duties of improving the output and quality of native copra by clearing and thinning plantations, instructing natives in improved drying methods, and enforcing the provisions of the Copra Ordinance in regard to the storage and treatment of copra. In this work the Committee was assisted by a monetary grant from the Empire Marketing Board which, however, has now expired.

After considering types of hot-air dryers in use in this Colony and in the Mandated Territory of Samoa, the Committee approved of the erection of a selected type of dryer at Vuna, Taveuni, where there is a large area of native-owned coconuts. Erection commenced in December and building operations were in progress at the end of the year.

Bananas.

Exports amounted to 97,783 cases, an increase of 13,261 cases over the previous year.

In common with other crops bananas suffered severely from the storm and floods of the early part of the year, particularly from the floods which almost entirely destroyed the industry in the districts served by the Rewa River and its tributaries. The natives, however, rapidly re-established their plantations and although the monthly shipment in June fell to 3,528 cases, by December exports had increased to 18,199 cases.

A feature of the industry during the year under review is the increased production in coco-nut-growing areas which hitherto have not engaged in the banana trade to any extent. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that the low prices realized for copra have compelled coco-nut growers to plant quick-maturing side crops. At the beginning of the year the normal banana-producing areas furnished approximately 70 per cent. of the fruit exported whereas the coco-nut areas within reasonable distances of the port of shipment produced 30 per cent. By the end of the year the latter areas had increased their production to 48 per cent. of the total.

The only market to which bananas were exported during the year was New Zealand where, due to competition from neighbouring territories such as Samoa, Norfolk Island, and the Cook Islands.

together with the reduced purchasing power of the people of the Dominion during the depression, prices fell considerably, especially towards the end of the year.

The cultivation of bananas is almost entirely in the hands of the Fijians who produce approximately 75 per cent. of the quantities exported. Europeans, Indians, and Chinese cultivate limited areas and contribute 5 per cent., 10 per cent., and 10 per cent. respectively of the total exports.

The shipment of the fruit is, however, almost entirely in the hands of Europeans who purchase Fijian-grown bananas at central points in country districts under conditions governed by Regulations made under the Fruit Export Ordinance, 1906. These Regulations provide for the licensing of prescribed areas in which one buyer only is permitted to operate. The buyer, in return for the concession, is required to purchase all good quality fruit offered to him at a packing station at prices fixed from time to time by a Board representative of the Government, of the buyers, and of the growers. This method of control is open to objection on the grounds that the grower is forced to sell to the one person holding a licence in respect of his area. It has, however, the advantage of securing to him a certain market for all of his product at prices fixed in accordance with New Zealand values and of relieving him of all risks of loss in transit, etc. There is no restriction on the grower exporting his fruit either in his own name or through an agent licensed by the Government, and during the year there has been a growing tendency on the part of the Fijian grower towards shipping his produce through agents and taking the risks of greater or smaller returns than those provided by the price-fixing Board. Records show that from 4.9 per cent., at the beginning of the year, the quantity of native fruit exported through agents increased to 17.1 per cent. of the total shipments at the close of the year.

Strict enforcement of the Regulations governing the export of bananas has resulted in a decided improvement in the quality of the fruit exported, and, generally, shipments have landed in New Zealand in excellent condition.

Rice.

Rice is grown entirely for local consumption, the average annual production being in the neighbourhood of 8,500 tons. The milling of paddy is principally a home industry carried on by Indian families for their own requirements, and for sale to their fellow countrymen and in bazaars and Indian-owned stores.

The Government operates a rice mill at Suva, and two merchant firms and a number of Indians run small mills in Suva and in the rice growing districts to which growers dispose of their surplus stocks of paddy.

Practically the whole of the paddy produced is grown by East Indians, each grower cultivating from, on the average, one to five acres. Fijians have recently begun to take an interest in rice growing, particularly in the Tailevu Province, but it will be some time before any appreciable quantity of paddy is produced by the native people.

Production is not sufficient to meet local demands and it is necessary to import approximately 2,000 tons of rice per annum to meet requirements. The economic situation has, however, caused many Indians, normally otherwise employed, to engage in rice growing and there are prospects that a considerable quantity of paddy will be offered for sale to the mills during 1932.

Information as to the surplus supplies of paddy offered for sale to the mills is not available. The Government Rice Mill, however, purchased 597 tons of paddy during 1931.

Pineapples.

The Fiji Pineapple Company's factory at Waidau, Ovalau, was not operated for the 1931-32 summer pack and the future of this undertaking has not yet been decided upon. It is particularly unfortunate that operations of this cannery should have ceased as the Company had entered into agreements with Fijians in Lomaiviti and Tailevu Provinces for the supply of fresh fruit and a large number of natives had cleared and prepared their lands for planting.

West Coast Pines, Limited, began canning operations towards the end of the year and has made satisfactory arrangements for the disposal of its pack. This Company estimates its production at 7,500 cases, each of two dozen tins, for the 1931-32 canning season.

The experimental work of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company, Limited, was continued during the year but the Company had not at the end of the year made any announcement as to its intentions.

Supplies of fresh fruit for the West Coast Pineapple Company's factory are secured from European and Indian growers cultivating lands under contracts with the Company, which provides quantities of planting materials and advises the growers in cultural methods. During the current season the Company has purchased fruit from 47 tenants of their properties, of whom 5 are Europeans, 1 Fijian and 41 Indians, and from 3 Europeans and 148 Indians growing fruit under contract. It appears likely that the bulk of the fresh fruit will, as the industry progresses, be produced by Indian tenants or free farmers under contracts.

The Company anticipates that, within the next ten years, some 15,000 to 20,000 acres of land which are at present unproductive will be producing fresh fruit for sale to the cannery.

SUBSIDIARY CROPS.**Cotton.**

Due to the hurricane and floods of February and a following drought, the year was an unfortunate one for the Indian peasant farmer who is the principal cotton grower.

As noted on the Report for 1930, planting was confined to the Sea Island variety which, for many years, has not fluctuated in price to the same extent as other varieties.

Crop estimates made shortly before the hurricane indicated a crop of between 700 and 800 bales, each of 400 lb. Actually, the crop has amounted to 260 bales, each of 400 lb., of which 159 bales were ginned at the Lautoka ginnery and 101 bales at Sigatoka.

The area of cotton cropped was 822 acres by 822 growers of whom 73 were Fijians and the balance Indians.

The amount paid to growers for seed cotton was approximately £3,500.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Export.

The Colony exports small quantities of fresh pineapples, tomatoes, kumalas, Mauritius beans, citrus fruits, melons, pumpkins, and coco-nuts. New Zealand is the principal market for all of the above excepting tomatoes and Mauritius beans, which are disposed of in Australia. Chinese growers produce almost the whole of the tomato, kumala, and melon crops; Indians, Mauritius beans, pineapples, and pumpkins; and Fijians, the coconuts and citrus crops. Oranges and mandarins are not cultivated in orchards, each village having a number of trees scattered around it, most of which are, probably, self sown.

Mauritius beans are disposed of to Queensland farmers who use the plant as a green manure. With the assistance of the Government in the provision of funds for the purchase of seed, a number of coconut planters in the Savusavu area produced profitable crops of bean for export.

Food and other crops not Exported.

Large quantities of foodstuffs are produced for local consumption chiefly by Fijian, Indian, and Chinese agriculturalists. The Fijians support themselves very largely from the produce of their own lands. Their main crops are yams, taro, tapioca, kumalas, kawai, breadfruit, bananas, plantains, oranges, and mandarins. No reliable statistics are available with regard to the quantities produced for daily consumption, but under normal conditions they are sufficient to provide ample food for the Fijians and to leave a margin for sale or barter. In the same manner the Indian agriculturists produce rice, dhal, beans, and other vegetables for

their own consumption and for sale in the local markets. The Chinese agriculturalists confine their efforts almost entirely to the growing of garden produce, generally in the vicinity of the ports and other European settlements. They produce sufficient vegetables and fruits to supply these communities and to leave a surplus for sale to steamships calling at the ports. Yaqona, from which the beverage known as "Kava" is made, is grown by all races and is produced in sufficient quantity to satisfy local demands.

Tobacco.

Tobacco grows luxuriantly in almost every part of the Colony and Fiji tobacco, grown and cured by Fijians and Indians, is largely used by the coloured population of the Colony. A limited number of cigars are manufactured by Indians by hand, and one or two enterprising people are now preparing and offering cut tobacco for sale in the bazaars. A number of inquiries in regard to the possibilities of the tobacco industry in the Colony were received during the year but nothing definite has eventuated.

A number of varieties of tobacco are at present undergoing trial at the Government Experimental Station at Navuso.

Maize.

Maize yields prolific crops on the rich river flats of the Colony but the demand has been limited since the introduction of mechanical traction by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, and the development by the Company of the present system of tenant farmers who grow their own requirements. A small grinding mill has been erected by the Department of Agriculture with a view to encouraging the use of maize meal and inquiries have been made as to the possibilities of commencing a small export trade.

Dairying.

Dairy farming is carried on in three pastoral districts within easy distance of Suva and is confined to Europeans who are assisted by Indian labourers.

The floods which occurred during the early part of the year occasioned considerable damage and loss to farmers particularly in the Rewa district.

Dairy farmers have shared the fall in income experienced by other settlers and a number have undoubtedly found difficulty in maintaining production with butter fat prices at such low levels. At the Government-controlled factory at Tailevu the price paid for butter fat has been as low as 10d. per lb. with a loss on factory operations even at that figure.

The import duty of 4d. per lb. on Empire butter and 8d. per lb. on foreign butter was continued during the year. Local market prices in 1931 were :—

					<i>Pats.</i>		<i>Bulk.</i>	
					<i>lb.</i>		<i>lb.</i>	
					<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1.1.31—19.2.31	...	...	...	...	1	6	1	5½
20.2.31—16.3.31	...	...	...	...	1	7	1	6½
17.3.31—14.4.31	...	...	...	...	1	6	1	5½
15.4.31—13.5.31	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	3½
14.5.31— 1.6.31	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	4½
2.6.31—31.12.31	...	...	...	...	1	6	1	5½

The retail price of butter in Fiji is now lower than it has been for the past ten years.

Production and export figures for the last five years are :—

<i>Year.</i>						<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
						<i>Production.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
						<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	...	295,677	54,208
1928	...	...	...	...	...	307,989	34,048
1929	...	...	...	...	...	392,214	79,968
1930	...	...	...	...	...	440,277	101,136
1931	...	...	...	...	...	490,055	179,760

Through the courtesy of the Fiji Pastoral Company operating at Navua, the following particulars of the improvement in the production of their herd are available for publication :—

<i>November, 1930.</i>	<i>November, 1931.</i>
4 cows produced over 40 lb. fat.	1 cow produced over 50 lb. fat.
37 cows produced over 30 lb. fat.	16 cows produced over 40 lb. fat.
171 cows produced over 20 lb. fat.	71 cows produced over 30 lb. fat.
202 cows produced over 10 lb. fat.	215 cows produced over 20 lb. fat.
32 cows produced over 5 lb. fat.	207 cows produced over 10 lb. fat.
1 cow produced under 5 lb. fat.	21 cows produced over 5 lb. fat.

December, 1930.

10 cows produced over 40 lb.
fat.
8 cows produced over 30 lb.
fat.
99 cows produced over 20 lb.
fat.
84 cows produced over 10 lb.
fat.
8 cows produced under 5 lb.
fat.

December, 1931.

2 cows produced over 50 lb.
fat.
13 cows produced over 40 lb.
fat.
95 cows produced over 30 lb.
fat.
260 cows produced over 20 lb.
fat.
156 cows produced over 10 lb.
fat.
11 cows produced under 10 lb.
fat.

These results indicate the improvement in yields to be anticipated from the use of pedigree bulls of high butter-fat backing, and demonstrate the value of herd testing in eliminating unprofitable animals from the herd.

Records of individual animals furnished by the same Company are as follows :—

(a) Grade Jersey bred in Fiji, produced 405 lbs. of butter fat in 343 days. Milked twice a day and received no hand or other special feeding. Still milking at the end of the 343 days referred to above and produced 33 lbs. of fat in the final 31 days of the period.

(b) Pedigree Jersey, got in New Zealand, born in Fiji. Produced 342 lbs. of butter fat in 339 days. Milked twice a day and received no hand or other special feeding. Still milking.

In view of the low prices realized for butter in the world's markets the dairy companies have given some attention to the utilization of portion of their output for the manufacture of ghee for which there is a demand amongst the Indian population of the Colony.

Live Stock.

The estimated number of horned cattle in the Colony is 57,672, and of horses 6,572.

Cattle are bred on most of the European-owned coconut estates of the Colony where they are grazed amongst the palms and thus reduce weeding costs. The market for fat stock is, however, restricted to the limited numbers required by the local butchers; consequently the profitable development of stock raising for beef purposes is impossible in the absence of a meat cannery or an export trade in beef.

Indian peasant farmers own a considerable number of the horned cattle of the Colony, almost every settler having a few milking cows and a pair of bullocks broken to the plough. Half-bred Zebu bullocks are favoured for draught purposes.

Pigs are bred on a number of the dairy farms but here again the market is limited to the local demand for pork.

The breeding of sheep is under trial on a number of coconut estates. Trouble is being experienced from intestinal parasites and the attacks of blow flies, control measures of which are being studied by the veterinary staff.

Agricultural Instruction to Fijians and Indians.

During the year 1930 His Excellency the Governor appointed an Agricultural Advisory Committee to consider and submit recommendations for the improvement and development of agricultural methods among the Fijians and the introduction of suitable instruction on the subject in Fijian and Indian schools. Following the first report of the Committee approval was given for the extension of the terms of reference to include the question of marketing of economic crops grown by Fijians and Indians. Further, the Committee, which consists of the heads of the Agricultural, Education, Native and Indian Affairs Departments, and a representative of the Methodist Mission, was requested to serve as a permanent advisory body.

Crop instruction pamphlets have been prepared for translation into Fijian and Hindustani for distribution and it is proposed to prepare articles on general agricultural methods which can form the introductory chapters of a textbook of agricultural practice suited to local conditions.

The Methodist Mission, with the financial assistance of the Government conducts an agricultural school for older boys at Navuso. Consideration has been given to the question of juvenile agricultural instruction, particularly in the provincial schools, but the Committee has had to face the fact that many of the teachers are not qualified to undertake such instruction. Consideration has also been given to the training in agricultural practice of the students attending at the Teachers' Training College at Natabua. The Government Cotton Experimental Station, where general agricultural work is also carried out, is within reach of the College by rail, but difficulties arise in providing accommodation at the farm and from the interruption of the other studies of the students. It is realized that the teachers in training should be required to attain a reasonable standard of education in agricultural practice if they are to be of any real use subsequently in the schools of the Colony.

Adult agricultural instruction falls under two heads, viz., training of well-educated young Fijians at the Government Experimental Farms at Navuso and Sigatoka for use as field instructors under either the Department of Agriculture or the Provincial Administration, and instruction of the village people at or near their towns.

During 1931, four youths were selected from the Queen Victoria School and arrangements made for their accommodation and training at the Navuso Experimental Station. They have received training in banana, rice, pineapple, grass, citrus, legume and native food crop culture. The station is under the control of an Agricultural Officer who pays bi-weekly visits. An Assistant Agricultural Officer is in residence on the farm. The students have responded splendidly to the instruction that has been given to them and already display ability in the handling of draught animals. They maintain a well stocked garden of native and European vegetables from which is drawn a considerable portion of their food. Arrangements have been made for an increase in the number of students to eight in 1932.

On the field staff of the Department there are five Native Field Assistants. These men were drafted to Navuso for a month's refresher course during the year and it is proposed to repeat this each June and December—the months during which the Fijians are relieved from communal duties and when little or no field instruction work in the districts is possible.

At the Cotton Experimental Station at Sigatoka three Fijians have been trained and are now in charge of the Fijian agricultural centres in Nadroga and Colo West Provinces which will be described later in this Report.

The native instructors referred to are under the control of the Agricultural Officer and his staff of five European Assistant Agricultural Officers, each of whom is assigned a sphere of operations. The Cotton Specialist and his Senior Field Assistant superintend the native instructors engaged on the training scheme in Nadroga and Colo West, referred to later in the Report.

The principal agricultural development amongst the Fijian people has been in the direction of the use of animal-drawn implements in the place of handtools and the primitive digging stick. This development cannot be said to have been great, due principally to the lack of means of the people. There is, however, a growing desire on the part of the Fijians for more modern methods of cultivation and the Government has fostered this desire by advancing to the more progressive people funds for the purchase of working stock and implements, repayment of advances being secured on the crops planted, and by providing trained European and Fijian instructors. Six provinces have been assisted in the matter of stock and implements.

It has been found that the Fijian takes readily to the use of implements and that he is quick to realize the advantages of up-to-date methods in agricultural practices.

In Nadroga and Colo West Provinces a more ambitious scheme of adult instruction to Fijians is being pursued. Control of the scheme was transferred from the Native to the Agricultural Department during the year, and Mr. R. R. Anson, Cotton

Specialist, placed in direct charge. In consultation with the Provincial Commissioner, Mr. Anson has considerably modified the plan with the object of consolidating areas rather than giving instruction to individuals on small isolated and scattered flats. Natives of these Provinces have been provided with 32 ploughs and 36 cultivators and harrows on the terms already referred to, and approximately 50 acres are under cotton, rice, maize, and potatoes. Ample areas of land are available for an extension of the scheme. Forty-two adults are receiving instruction on four blocks of selected land and it is proposed to increase this number as soon as possible.

The object of the scheme is to teach practical farming methods on a scale suited to the needs of the Fijians and to develop a rotation of crops suitable to the land, the climate, and the people. The men under instruction receive no remuneration beyond a share of the commercial crops grown and a portion of the food crops. The consolidation of areas renders supervision simpler, cheaper, and more effective and will assist in the development of co-operative ideas amongst the people.

Fijians in the districts adjoining the areas have been quick to see the advantages of consolidated blocks and of co-operative effort with modern methods and, in two districts, have themselves commenced work on similar lines.

Generally, it may be said that considerable progress has been made during the year in the training of Fijian youths as agricultural instructors and in the training of adult Fijians in agricultural practices. There is undoubtedly a growing desire on the part of the natives to improve their cultural methods and to take advantage of the instruction which the Government is providing.

The handling, grading, and packing of produce is also receiving attention at the hands of the field staff of the Department. Improved methods of handling and packing bananas for export are already apparent even where the fruit has been packed by natives without European supervision.

Indians have, for generations, been tillers of the soil and while their methods have been primitive, they at least have been accustomed to the use of animal-drawn implements, a benefit which the Fijians have not enjoyed. In addition, Indians have in this Colony been the principal source of labour on plantations where they have, of necessity, learned the cultural methods adopted by their employers. The largest employer of labour in the Colony is the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, a well-organized undertaking employing modern agricultural methods; consequently, a large proportion of the Indian community has received a training in their employment with the Company. Although the Company does not now employ such large numbers of estate labourers, due to the development of the tenant-farmer scheme, officers of the Company continue to exercise supervision over the work of the tenants and to give instruction in agricultural practice.

Considerable room for improvement in the cultural methods practised by a section of the Indian community undoubtedly exists, but generally the Indian is far in advance of the Fijian in the matter of agricultural operations; consequently, in view of the financial position of the Colony, greater attention has been paid to the instruction of the Fijians. Agricultural officers have, however, given instruction to Indian farmers in their districts and, as already stated, crop instruction pamphlets are in course of preparation for translation into Hindustani.

Assistance to Indian farmers has taken the line of:—

- (a) endeavouring to add to the crops which Indians can profitably produce,
- (b) production of better yielding, quicker growing varieties of the crops already found to be suitable and profitable,
- (c) assisting in marketing and expanding markets,
- (d) encouragement of co-operation, and
- (e) prevention of usury.

The Government maintains a general experimental station at Navuso, in the Rewa district, and a cotton-breeding station at Sigatoka at which general experimental work is now undertaken in addition to cotton. At the latter station efforts are being made to develop a variety of cotton for general production throughout Fiji which will, at the same time, take a somewhat special place in the market and so be able to bear the comparatively high transport charges to the overseas market.

At both stations pure line seed paddy of heavy yielding and early maturing qualities has been produced and disposed of to growers who have been advised in better methods of cultivation. In addition a number of additional crops are being grown experimentally at the stations.

Profitable marketing of crops is a source of difficulty to many of the Indian settlers of the Colony who are not engaged in sugar-cane cultivation, owing to the limited market available in New Zealand for the minor crops grown by the farmer cultivating a limited area of land. The necessity of expanding markets for the produce of the Colony has been realized and endeavours have been made to develop an export trade to Western Canada. High freight rates, however, preclude entirely the profitable marketing of any but high value crops in that Dominion.

The necessity for encouraging the co-operative movement amongst Indians has received attention and a committee has been appointed to examine the question of establishing co-operative societies for the promotion of thrift and self-help amongst farmers of limited means. It is hoped to encourage the establishment, in the first instance, of a few district agricultural societies formed of persons known to one another, who are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and that these, later, will develop into co-operative societies formed for specific purposes.

The existing system of credits for Indian agriculturists outside the organization of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, is known to be defective, and a Money Lenders Bill, designed to give a greater degree of protection to the small borrower, is receiving the consideration of the Government.

Lands and Survey.

Prior to the British occupation of Fiji, European settlers had acquired large areas of land from the native Chiefs, and, after the Deed of Cession, Crown grants for land, on claims substantiated before the Lands Commission, were issued. In this manner 414,615 acres were alienated.

By the year 1912, Crown grants for a further area of 20,184 acres of land purchased from the natives had been issued, but in that year the sale of native lands, except to the Government for specific purposes, was prohibited.

The standard tenure of land is leasehold up to 99 years for leases for agricultural purposes, 75 years for building purposes, and 21 years with option of renewal for a further period of 21 years, subject to re-assessment of the rental, for leases for pastoral purposes. The rent for an agricultural leasehold for the maximum period of 99 years is subject to re-assessment in the thirty-third and sixty-sixth years, or in the thirtieth and sixtieth years in the case of a lease for less than the maximum period. In leases for building purposes the rent is subject to re-assessment in the twenty-fifth and fiftieth years. In all cases the rent is subject to re-assessment, to a maximum not exceeding five per cent. of the unimproved capital value of the land. Lessees of expiring leaseholds of native-owned land are afforded a considerable measure of security of continuance of tenure by legislation which provides that, in the event of refusal of the native owners, without just cause, to surrender control of the land for renewal of an expiring lease, the Governor in Council may require the native owners to agree to renew the lease or to pay such amount of compensation as the Governor in Council may decide to be the reasonable value of the permanent and unexhausted improvements made on the leasehold by the lessee.

Leases of Crown lands are submitted as a rule to public auction, usually with an upset premium of £2, to cover the cost of advertising the auction sale. Leases of small areas applied for by Indians are exempt from sale by public auction. Instructions for survey are issued by the Crown Surveyor on payment of the survey fees by the lessee, who is then entitled to enter into occupation.

The rent of land in Fiji varies according to situation and quality. Pasturable lands vary from 1d. to 2s. per acre, coconut lands from 6d. to 5s., hill land from 6d. to 2s., banana, sugar-cane, rice, and maize land from 5s. to £1, the latter rental prevailing only in certain favoured localities in which supply and demand have resulted in that high rent.

The following statement shows the position as regards land alienated at the end of the year 1931:—

<i>Nature of Title.</i>	<i>No. of Titles.</i>	<i>Area.</i>	<i>In process of alienation.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Total area of Colony.</i>
			<i>No. of Lots.</i>	<i>Esti- mated Area.</i>		
Freeholds	1,591	531,658	1	947	532,605	4,523,620
Leases of Crown Land	472	15,748	111	2,666	18,414	—
Leases of Native Land	7,033	291,808	529	14,061	305,869	—
Totals					856,888	4,523,620

Four hundred and eighty-four applications for leases of native lands aggregating 11,037 acres were received during the year. Of these 188 applications for 1,984 acres were approved and 160 applications for 6,549 acres were under consideration at the end of the year. Applications by Indians formed 84 per cent. of the total. Sixty-four applications for leases of Crown lands aggregated 2,675 acres. Of these, 34 applications for 308 acres, were approved, and 22 for 1,673 acres were under consideration at the end of the year, the remainder having been declined or withdrawn.

Survey.

The survey staff of the Lands Department consists of six officers, two of whom are necessarily almost continuously employed at headquarters. During 1931 the field staff were employed almost wholly on investigations and miscellaneous surveys including surveys of native leases, and comparatively little main traverse work was possible. Seven surveyors in private practice were employed under instructions from the Crown Surveyor on surveys for leases of native and Crown lands.

Five hundred and three plans of surveys by Government and private surveyors were examined and passed for issue of leases.

Native Lands Commission.

The native Lands Commission, which operates under the Native Lands Ordinance No. 1 of 1905, is charged with the duty of ascertaining what lands in each province of the Colony are the rightful and hereditary property of native Fijian owners, and whether the ownership is by Mataqali (a tribal division) or by some other division or subdivision of the people.

The Commission consists of a European chairman and three native Chiefs of the highest rank. The clerical staff is composed entirely of native officers, and the official language of the Commission is Fijian.

The members of the Commission are vested with powers to summon and examine on oath any persons who they think are able to give relevant evidence, and to require the attendance of all

claimants to any land the title of which is being inquired into and of all persons likely to be interested in such land.

Any appeal against any decision of the Native Lands Commission, provided notice of appeal is lodged within 60 days of the announcement of the decision, is heard and determined by the Governor in Council, whose decision is final. If no notice of desire to appeal is given, the record of the decision is conclusive.

All lands recorded by the Commission as the rightful and hereditary property of native Fijians are surveyed by a staff of surveyors especially employed for the purpose. The cost of the survey is borne by the proprietary unit owning the land and is assessed on a scale prepared by the Crown Surveyor and approved by the Governor in Council. The law requires that the cost of survey shall be paid within six months after demand; but, if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Governor that any proprietary unit is unable to pay, the Governor is empowered to make such order as may seem fit and just.

The Commission, in 1931, continued inquiries in the Province of Tailevu North (District of Bau), and also operated in the Provinces of Kadavu, Namosi, and Serua. The survey staff attached to the Commission comprises fifteen surveyors and three supernumerary officers.

Survey operations were carried out in the Provinces of Colo West, Nadi, Naitasiri, Rewa, Tailevu North, Macuata, Bua, and Cakaudrove.

Mining.

The production of metals and minerals of any description has hitherto been nil. Prospecting operations were not very active during the year and in only one case resulted in the discovery of a deposit of low-grade gold ore in respect of which three applications for gold-mining leases were lodged towards the end of the year. A "pilot" stamping and treatment plant is in course of erection for testing the commercial value of the discovery.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total trade of the Colony for 1931 was £1,929,701, being £774,009 or 28.63 per cent. less than in 1930. The total value of imports was £929,514 in 1931, and £1,219,184 in 1930—a decrease of £289,670 or 23.75 per cent. in 1931. The total value of exports in 1931 amounted to £1,000,187, and in 1930 £1,484,526—a decrease of £484,339 or 32.63 per cent. in 1931. Domestic exports were £446,345 less than in 1930 or 32.38 per cent. Exports other than the produce of the Colony dropped from £106,155 in 1930 to £68,161 in 1931—a decrease of £37,994.

The total trade compared with 1930 is as follows :—

—	<i>Imports, per cent.</i>		<i>Exports, per cent.</i>		<i>Total trade.</i>	
	<i>1930</i>	<i>1931</i>	<i>1930</i>	<i>1931</i>	<i>1930</i>	<i>1931</i>
United Kingdom ...	30·65	27·77	30·84	12·11	30·76	19·66
Other British Possessions.	54·86	57·93	47·80	73·67	50·97	66·10
Foreign countries ...	11·64	11·59	21·10	13·91	16·84	12·77
Parcels post ...	2·85	2·71	—	—	1·28	1·31
Ships' stores...	—	—	·26	·31	·15	·16
Total ...	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

showing that although the percentages for the United Kingdom have decreased during the past year, the percentages of trade with the Empire as a whole have increased, and those for foreign countries have decreased.

The following figures show the trade of the Colony during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>			<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Total Trade.</i>
			£	£	£
1927	...	...	1,223,303	1,997,374	3,220,677
1928	...	...	1,483,169	2,701,251	4,184,420
1929	...	...	1,468,609	1,775,998	3,244,607
1930	...	...	1,219,184	1,484,526	2,703,710
1931	...	...	929,514	1,000,187	1,929,701

The Import Trade.

Imports dropped from £1,219,184 in 1930 to £929,514 in 1931, a decrease of £289,670. As usual the bulk of the trade was confined to comparatively few articles.

The value of imports from the principal countries during the last five years was as follows :—

<i>Country.</i>		<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
		£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	...	316,824	404,718	418,570	373,694	258,171
Australia	...	528,740	621,396	543,963	449,845	372,284
Canada	...	51,105	70,262	84,822	60,076	40,134
India	...	45,253	44,613	69,222	43,239	32,622
New Zealand	...	124,775	140,697	140,418	102,339	81,470
Japan	...	13,454	28,811	23,576	17,135	23,909
Dutch East Indies	...	—	11,976	20,746	21,889	20,115
United States	...	122,470	131,994	121,441	86,224	51,789

and the proportion of total import trade done with the principal countries during the same period was as follows:—

<i>Country.</i>	<i>1927.</i>		<i>1928.</i>		<i>1929.</i>		<i>1930.</i>		<i>1931.</i>	
	<i>Per cent.</i>		<i>Per cent.</i>		<i>Per cent.</i>		<i>Per cent.</i>		<i>Per cent.</i>	
United Kingdom ...	25·90		27·28		28·50		30·65		27·77	
Australia ...	43·22		41·90		37·04		36·90		40·05	
Canada ...	4·18		4·19		5·77		4·94		4·32	
India ...	3·70		3·00		4·03		3·55		3·61	
New Zealand ...	10·20		9·48		9·56		8·39		8·76	
Japan ...	1·09		1·94		1·60		1·45		2·57	
Dutch East Indies ...	—		·80		1·41		1·80		2·16	
United States ...	10·02		8·90		8·20		7·06		5·57	

The principal articles imported from the above-mentioned countries during the last two years are as follows:—

From United Kingdom.

	<i>1930.</i>		<i>1931.</i>	
	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		£		£
Cement and lime	49,634 cwt.	5,984	65,119 cwt.	7,619
Drapery ...	—	100,195	—	80,254
Hardware ...	—	41,661	—	25,803
Machinery ...	—	24,327	—	12,786
Manure ...	2,894 tons	24,027	2,594 tons.	18,342
Spirits ...	15,506 gals.	16,659	13,115 gals.	13,087

From Australia.

Bags and sacks ...	90,991 doz.	35,324	61,733 doz.	19,678
Coal ...	24,890 tons.	25,690	18,989 tons.	17,097
Flour, Sharps and Pollard.	16,602,602 lb.	81,859	17,882,836 lb.	63,373
Hardware ...	—	34,533	—	27,135
Machinery ...	—	23,039	—	15,739
Rice ...	8,638 cwt.	5,392	62,705 cwt.	34,289
Tea ...	131,529 lb.	10,702	145,596 lb.	11,028
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.	87,289 lb.	29,989	74,630 lb.	24,529

From Canada.

Fish ...	490,714 lb.	10,781	328,514 lb.	6,766
Timber ...	2,576,209 sq. ft.	14,731	2,255,406 sq. ft.	11,579

From India.

	1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £
Mustard Oil ...	43,876 gals.	8,201	50,389 gals.	7,275

From New Zealand.

Photographs and Films.	—	18,860	—	21,482
Tea ...	89,471 lb.	10,829	78,441 lb.	8,969

From Japan.

Drapery ...	—	15,118	—	20,201
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From Dutch East Indies.

Petroleum Products and Crude Oil.	670,124 gals.	21,889	705,357 gals.	20,115
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From United States.

Petroleum Products and Crude Oil.	991,913 gals.	40,265	599,819 gals.	18,533
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During the four years from 1927 to 1930 the percentage of imports from the United Kingdom increased gradually, but a small decline is shown in 1931. The movement as regards imports from Australia is in an opposite direction. The percentage gradually declining until 1930, then showing in 1931 a small increase. This is partly accounted for by exchange between Australia and Fiji being more favourable for importers than that between the United Kingdom and Fiji, and also by the fact that our supplies of imports for human consumption came principally from Australia. The principal imports from the United Kingdom consist of manufactured articles, and these have decreased in value from £340,341 in 1930 to £229,073 in 1931. The importation of food and drink supplies from Australia were valued at £188,153 in 1930 and £188,143 in 1931.

The Export Trade.

Exports, the produce of the Colony, fell in value from £1,378,371 in 1930 to £932,026 in 1931. The exports of the principal products of the Colony for the past five years were as follows:—

1927.			1928.			1929.			1930.			1931.		
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Sugar	...	...	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
		72,752	1,125,215	120,683	1,827,095	72,275	881,263	90,979	853,833	67,937	624,310			
Copra	...	...	534,416	27,947	567,254	33,226	563,978	23,882	369,524	16,917	177,786			
Molasses	...	...	11,181	14,599	14,599	9,845	9,845	12,337	12,337	9,019	9,019			
Bananas	...	...	544,359	157,819	521,003	384,858	107,280	169,044	57,178	194,875	57,368			
Biscuits	...	...	360,387	9,334	438,211	373,793	9,507	338,892	8,456	149,630	3,325			
Butter	...	...	484	3,615	303½	714	5,747	903	6,496	1,612	7,519			
Cotton	...	...	249,355	17,593	75,366	49,115	3,348	127,077	6,727	78,932	1,146			
Vegetables	...	...	7,228	3,717	9,147	11,108	7,444	8,568	5,459	9,925	4,988			
Pines, Canned	...	...	145,824	1,801	245,799	128,210	2,276	306,913	6,593	297,301	5,961			
Pines, Fresh	...	...	7,021	2,124	5,667	6,170	1,848	7,633	2,296	5,607	1,510			

It will be seen that the quantities and values of sugar and copra have fallen considerably, the average export values of these two commodities in 1930 being £9 7s. 8d. and £15 9s. 6d. per ton, and in 1931 £9 3s. 10d. and £10 10s. 2d. respectively. The quantity of sugar exported was 23,042 tons less than in 1930 and the value less by £229,523. The quantity of copra exported was 6,965 tons less than in 1930 and the value less by £191,738. The decrease in the quantities exported was mainly due to the damage caused to the crops by the hurricanes of November, 1930, and February, 1931, the latter hurricane being accompanied by heavy floods which caused extensive damage in the sugar-producing centres in Vitilevu. The quantity of bananas exported was 25,831 bunches in excess of the quantity exported in 1930 with an increase in value of £190. Amongst the minor domestic exports, butter and bêche-de-mer alone show increases. The remainder, notably biscuits, have decreases both in quantities and values.

The principal countries to which the products of the Colony were exported during the last two years are as follows :—

To United Kingdom.

		1930.		1931.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Sugar ...	...	39,430 tons.	344,449	7,122 tons.	53,413
Copra ...	...	4,982 tons.	80,180	5,356 tons.	55,832
Cotton ...	...	127,077 lb.	6,727	78,932 lb.	1,146
Pines, canned...		112,050 lb.	2,532	96,220 lb.	2,309

To Canada.

Sugar ...	...	38,604 tons.	383,657	54,340 tons.	508,573
Pines, canned...		—	—	53,317 lb.	1,096

To New Zealand.

Sugar ...	...	9,739 tons.	92,061	5,897 tons.	57,622
Bananas ...	...	168,846 bunches.	57,125	194,859 bunches.	57,394
Pines, canned...		193,280 lb.	4,032	146,567 lb.	2,535

To Hong Kong.

Bêche-de-mer ...		2,667 cwt.	13,856	2,744 cwt.	15,369
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To Germany.

Copra	283 tons.	4,784	2,004 tons.	24,051
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To Spain.

Copra	2,672 tons.	39,396	4,134 tons.	41,611
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To United States.

Copra	12,934 tons.	194,637	4,880 tons.	50,635
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Suggestions for the development of trade with the United Kingdom and the Empire generally.

The following points suggest themselves in connexion with the possibility of developing the trade of the Colony within the Empire.

The territories other than Fiji which come under consideration in this connexion are Canada, New Zealand, Australia, India, and the United Kingdom.

Canada.—Canada has already granted the same preference to sugar from Fiji as is granted to sugar from Australia. The present state of the butter market in Canada is poor, largely owing to increased local production, but this is a condition which may change. Australian butter is granted preference in Canada which might be extended to Fiji. Fiji shipments of butter to London are handicapped to the extent of about £7 a ton on account of freights as compared with New Zealand and Australian butter, but from a freight point of view Fiji butter can compete on level terms in the Canadian market.

There are indications that Australia is more likely to be interested in the development of her export trade in canned fruits than in butter and that later on it might be possible to secure greater preference for butter imported into Canada from Fiji.

New Zealand.—Fresh Fiji produce is largely exported to New Zealand, and with the exception of tomatoes is admitted to that Dominion duty free. It would be of advantage to this Colony if it could secure a preference on Fiji canned pineapples.

Australia.—Australia provided an extensive and profitable market for Fiji bananas for many years until the import duty on Fiji bananas was raised from 2s. to 8s. per cental in 1921, a fourfold increase.

The object of this was to protect and encourage the development of the Queensland banana-growing industry. Though Fiji bananas are still preferred in the Australian markets they are now unprocurable, as the heavy Australian duty makes export from Fiji unprofitable.

India.—It has been suggested that India might provide a market for Fiji sugar and that endeavours should be made to secure preferential treatment in that market. As with Australia, Fiji buys heavily from India while exports to India are negligible. The principal imports from India are (quoting the 1930 figures) :—

	£
Bags and sacks	7,200
Ghee and Ghee substitutes	5,270
Dhall	5,180
Mustard Oil	8,200

The articles above-quoted can only be imported from India. The question of trade possibilities with India was recently referred by the Government to the Suva Chamber of Commerce which replied that after full discussion by members of the Chamber it was agreed that opportunities for increased trade with India were remote and it was regretted that they were unable to offer any advice which might serve to bring about the desired trade relations between India and Fiji.

As regards the United Kingdom, the effect of recent changes in the United Kingdom tariff must inevitably be in the direction of increasing the volume of imports into the United Kingdom from Fiji.

Imports from the United Kingdom and the British Empire, exclusive of parcels post, are 87 per cent. of the total imports, and although this percentage is large, it is considered that if copra, the principal export to foreign destinations, was all sold within the Empire, the resulting credits would cause an increase in imports from Empire sources.

An increase in the tariff preference granted by Fiji to Empire goods would also have the effect of increasing the proportion of the present import trade which comes from British countries.

The development of the trade of Fiji with the United Kingdom and the Empire generally would be advanced if the shipping facilities available for Fiji produce were improved and extended.

This development would be further assisted by the provision of improved facilities at the port of Suva in relation to the requirements of the fruit export industry, and by the institution of an export trade in chilled or frozen beef.

Butter shipped from Fiji to the United Kingdom and Canada has at present to be sent to Auckland to be re-shipped from that port. The difficulties which Fiji butter producers have to face under present shipping arrangements would be removed if it were possible to load Fiji butter into direct steamers at the port of Suva and so ship it to England without having to land, store, and re-ship in Auckland.

The possibility of securing direct steam service between Eastern Canada and Fiji by Canadian National Steamships which now proceed to New Zealand and Australia is now being investigated.

The introduction of such a service would provide Fiji with an alternative outlet for butter which could be shipped direct to Eastern Canada when market conditions were favourable. There would also be the prospect of exporting copra to New York by British steamers and getting canned pineapples from Fiji on to the markets of Eastern Canada at low freights. The shipment of raw sugar by these vessels is another possibility. Cocoa from Western Samoa

destined for Canada could be picked up at Suva, provided that satisfactory arrangements for freightage from Apia, Western Samoa were arranged.

The subject of developing a beef-export industry in Fiji is also being investigated. Success depends upon satisfactory shipping arrangements and a good market. Contingent upon the provision of adequate cold storage in Suva, Canadian National Steamships would provide one service for the export of the product.

The potential market for Fiji bananas in Western Canada remains to be explored. A trial shipment forwarded by the *Aorangi* of the Canadian Australasian Royal Mail Line, though commercially unsuccessful, afforded information of great value, and disclosed the necessity for more satisfactory organization both in Suva and in Vancouver. The Company is co-operating in four trial shipments of 500 bunches each, commencing in May, 1932.

There would appear to be nothing to prevent successful carrying of these shipments as there is sufficient ventilated cool storage available. The Canadian Trade Commissioner has proffered his assistance to secure official reports on the fruit on arrival.

Successful development of an export trade in butter, beef, and fruit to markets other than New Zealand, will depend upon the provision of proper cold-storage facilities at the port of Suva.

The subject of improved facilities for export produce is being investigated, and draft plans for the buildings needed have been prepared for consideration.

When the financial situation permits, it would be desirable to improve the Fiji Exhibit at the Imperial Institute. The Fiji Publicity Board has already supplied the Institute with films representing the life, customs, and certain industries of the Colony.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour of Fijians.

No change has been made during the year in the conditions governing the employment of labourers under contract of service. Agricultural labourers may be employed under contracts for a period not exceeding twelve months. Every contract for a period exceeding one month must be made before a District Commissioner who may withhold his consent if the contract appears unreasonable or inequitable. The hours of labour are nine per day, from Monday to Friday, and five on Saturday, making a working week of 50 hours. When additional hours are worked by the labourers they are either paid overtime or given time off to compensate for their additional work. The cost of bringing labourers to an estate and returning

them to their villages is borne by the employer. Comprehensive safeguards are provided by law for the proper housing and treatment of labourers and employers are required to provide medical care in cases of sickness.

All recruitment of labour is entirely voluntary. As each Fijian is a member of a land-owning unit and has the right to use a portion of the tribal lands he is capable of supporting himself and his family from the products of his lands. There is therefore no necessity for him to work for wages, and generally speaking he only does so in order to gain money for some specific object. The vast majority of the Fijians do support themselves from the products of their lands, and those who elect to work under contract of service usually return to their villages on completion of the contract. There is therefore no labouring class of Fijians dependent for their subsistence solely upon the wages they earn. The constant change in the personnel of the labourers obviates any serious interference with the native social system and prevents the growth of a class of Fijians divorced from tribal associations and dependent for their livelihood on the economic condition of the labour market. These conditions provide probably the most effective safeguard for the proper treatment of labourers under contract of service.

The employment of casual labourers is mostly confined to the ports of Suva, Lautoka, and Levuka. The men are employed chiefly in the loading and unloading of cargo vessels and most of them return to their villages after the work on each ship is completed. Practically all these labourers are drawn from the native villages in the vicinity of the ports and as their personnel is constantly changing they do not form a class of casual labourers. A limited number of Fijians are employed in the commercial houses and a certain proportion of these remain more or less permanently in the commercial centres. There is, however, nothing to prevent them from returning to their villages and resuming their place in the native social system if they so desire. The number of Fijians employed as carpenters, boat-builders, marine engineers, and firemen is comparatively small. Their employment as skilled workers is limited, not only by the demand for such work but by their ability to compete with members of other races. Most of the small interinsular sailing vessels are manned by Fijians under the charge of a certificated native master. Few, if any, of these men work under contract of service. The conditions of labour vary according to the size of the vessel and the particular work on which it is employed, and they are in all cases a matter of agreement between the owner and the crew. This type of work is popular with the Fijians and the wages they earn are sufficient for the support of themselves and their dependants.

The wages paid for the various classes of labour are a matter of agreement between the employer and the worker. No scale of

wages is laid down by law but in all contracts of service exceeding one month the District Commissioner may decline to register the agreement if the terms offered are unreasonable. Statistics concerning the current rate of wages are given elsewhere.

Labour and Wages of Indians.

Wages and conditions of employment remain the same as last year. As was reported, Indian contract labour is chiefly employed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company. The employees of this Company normally total 3,000 a figure which rises to 4,000 during the crushing season. The harvesting of cane in the case of small farmers is arranged by a system of gangs, a number of farmers combining to harvest the crops of each. The Company's wages system remains the same. The standard wage for field work is 1s. 8d. a day with a bonus for a full week's work, and payment for overtime. Skilled field labour earns up to 17s. 6d. a week, and mill wages run from 10s. to 21s. a week in both cases with opportunities for earning a bonus and higher rates for special employment. The system of a concession rate to regular employees for supplies from the Company's stores continues and is worth about 1s. 4d. a week for the single man.

The standard wage for labour in Suva continues at 2s. 6d. a day and 2s. to 2s. 6d. in the districts. As was pointed out last year only a small minority of the population is entirely dependent on cash wages.

Though rice was imported for a considerable time during the year at rates below local prices, consumers only benefited to a very small extent by the reduction and the cost of living has remained about the same.

Public Works Department Labour.

The total average number of labourers skilled and unskilled employed in the Public Works Department, including Road Boards was 927; of these 497 were employed in the Suva district, and 430 in the various country districts. The nationalities of the labourers were as under:—

<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Half-castes.</i>	<i>Fijians.</i>	<i>Indians.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
50	72	350	430	25

Of the total, more than half are road labourers principally Indians and Fijians. On the maintenance of roads Indian labour predominates whereas on new construction Fijians are in the majority.

The general rate of wages is now 2s. 6d. per day and on the West coast 2s. 3d. per day with the exception of Labasa and the new Cuvu-Yako road, on which works 2s. per day is now being paid.

Europeans are employed as road-lorry, crane, and steam-roller drivers, electricians, fitters, machinists, motor mechanics, blacksmiths, boilermakers, etc.

No fixed rate is paid to skilled workmen, rates ranging from 14s. to 20s. per day according to the proficiency displayed. Half-castes are employed as boat-builders, house carpenters, blacksmiths, and fitters. This class of labour is gradually displacing the skilled European mechanic in the various trades enumerated above and the time is not far distant when Europeans will only be employed as foremen and in the higher grades.

The following figures give an idea of the wages paid to the various classes of workmen :—

Carpenters and joiners 3s. 6d. to 20s. per day depending on the degree of skill.

Boat-builders 8s. to 20s. Some skilled Fijians employed in the boatsheds are paid 3s. 9d. to 8s. per day.

Mechanics (including motor mechanics, fitters, turners, blacksmiths, boilermakers, etc.) up to 20s. per day. Apprentices (usually Europeans and half-castes) 5s. rising to £2 12s. 6d. per week.

Painters (usually Indian), 3s. 6d. per day, leading hands up to 9s. per day, lorry and steam-roller drivers (mostly Europeans) 11s. to 18s. per day. The average wage is £4 10s. 0d. per week.

Road Overseers (chiefly Europeans) £16 to £25 per month. Road gang sirdars (Indians) £4 10s. 0d. to £10 per month. Average wage £7 10s. 0d. per month.

The wages paid by the Public Works Department and the conditions under which the labourers work, are practically identical with those in force outside the Department. The hours of work are 8 hours per day or 48 hours per week and these hours are only departed from by the planters and the Colonial Sugar Refining Company. The hours worked per day and per week by the employees of the planters and Company are respectively 9 and 54.

There are no records kept by the Public Works Department as to the cost of living of the different classes of labourers employed. In any case there is no single standard of living which could be taken as applicable to all classes, as there are at least four categories which have each a distinct standard though the standards vary within each group in keeping with the educational and social standard attained in each individual case, and the issue is further complicated by one group or class merging into the other.

The following tables of wages paid to foremen and skilled workmen employed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, the Public

Works Department, and outside firms in Suva may be of interest :—

AVERAGE WAGES PAID BY THE COLONIAL SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED, PER 9 HOUR DAY.

<i>Trade.</i>	<i>European.</i>	<i>Half-caste.</i>	<i>Fijian.</i>	<i>Indian.</i>
Carpenters ...	16s. 2d.	8s. to 15s.	2s. 6d. to 5s.	2s. 6d. to 4s.
Dredge Masters ...	—	10s. to 12s.	—	3s. 6d.
Launch Captains ...	—	—	—	3s. 6d.
Launch Mates ...	—	—	—	—
Lorry Drivers... ..	—	—	—	3s. 6d.
Fitters	17s. 7d.	10s. to 15s.	—	—
Boat-builders... ..	—	10s. to 14s.	—	—
Plumbers	17s. 7d.	Up to 12s.	—	—
Blacksmiths	17s. 7d.	10s. to 14s.	—	—
Foremen	Up to £1	Up to 18s.	—	Up to 30s. (sirdars)
Joiners... ..	See Carpen- ters			
Water Fitters... ..	17s. 7d.	Up to 15s.	—	—
Turners	17s. 7d.	Up to 15s.	—	—
Motor Mechanics ...	17s. 7d.	Up to 15s.	—	—

PROVISION OF QUARTERS FOR COLONIAL SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED, EMPLOYEES.

Europeans.—Married men are provided with unfurnished houses at rentals ranging up to 10s. weekly, with free lighting.

Unmarried men are provided with free quarters and light.

Half-castes.—As above.

All the above have the privilege of purchasing certain food-stuffs at the Company's store, but at the present time there is little advantage in so doing.

Indians.—If required, accommodation in the labour lines is provided free of cost, also medical attention and medicine.

These employees, also, are enabled to purchase rice, flour, sugar, etc., at the Company's store, but on account of lower prices ruling in other stores, they do not avail themselves of this privilege as much as formerly.

Fijians.—Same as Indians.

The hours usually worked by the Company's hands, except when "rationing" of employment is in force, consist of a 54-hour week, worked on 5½ days.

AVERAGE RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS WORKED IN SUVA.

1930.

			<i>Rate per hour.</i>	<i>Hours weekly.</i>	<i>Rate per week.</i>
CARPENTERS—					
European	...	...	2s. 9d.	48	£6 12s. 0d.
Others	...	...	2s. to 7½d.	„	£4 16s. 0d. — £1 10s. 0d.
MECHANICS—					
European	...	...	2s. 9d. and 2s. 6d.	„	£6 12s. 0d. and £6 0s. 0d.
Others	...	...	1s. to 9d.	„	£2 8s. 0d. — £1 16s. 0d.
PAINTERS—					
European	...	...	2s. 9d. and 2s. 6d.	„	£6 12s. 0d. and £6 0s. 0d.
Others	...	...	10½ to 6d.	„	£2 2s. 0d. — £1 4s. 0d.
BOAT-BUILDERS—					
European	...	...	2s. 9d.	„	£6 12s. 0d.
Others	...	...	1s. 4½d.	„	£3 6s. 0d.
PLASTERERS—					
European	...	...	3s. 3d.	„	£7 16s. 0d.
Others	...	...	8½d. to 5½d.	„	£1 13s. 0d. — £1 1s. 0d.
NATIVE LABOURERS	...	...	5½d. to 4½d.	„	£1 1s. 0d. — 18s. 0d.

1931.

CARPENTERS—					
European	...	...	2s. 6d.	„	£6 0s. 0d.
Others	...	...	1s. 6d. to 5½d.	„	£3 12s. 0d.—£1 1s. 0d.
MECHANICS—					
European	...	...	2s. 6d.	„	£6 0s. 0d.
Others	...	...	9d.	„	£1 16s. 0d.
PAINTERS—					
European	...	...	None employed		
Others	...	...	6½d. to 5½d.	„	£1 7s. 0d.—£1 1s. 0d.
BOAT-BUILDERS—					
European	...	...	2s. 6d.	„	£6 0s. 0d.
Others	...	...	1s. 4½d. to 1s.	„	£3 6s. 0d.—£2 8s. 0d.
PLASTERERS—					
European	...	...	3s.	„	£7 4s. 0d.
Others	...	...	6½d. to 5½d.	„	£1 7s. 0d.—£1 1s. 0d.
NATIVE LABOURERS	...	...	4½d. to 3½d.	„	18s. to 15s.

ACTUAL RATES OF WAGES OF FOREMEN AND SKILLED WORKMEN OF
THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**BLACKSMITHS—**

European	...	...	...	1s. 10½d. per hour.
Half-caste	...	...	...	2s. 4½d. per hour.
Half-caste	...	...	...	2s. 0d. per hour.

BOAT-BUILDERS—

Half-caste	...	...	...	£406 per annum.
Half-caste	...	...	...	14s. per day.
Half-caste	...	...	...	2s. 9½d. per hour.
Half-caste	2s. 4½d. per hour.
Fijian	1s. 9d. per hour.

CARPENTERS (FOREMAN)—

Half-caste	£360 per annum.
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CARPENTERS (LEADING)—

European	16s. per day.
Half-caste	£25 per month.

CARPENTERS—

European	...	...	...	£28 per month.
European	...	...	...	16s. per day.
Half-caste	...	...	...	£6 per month.

CARPENTERS—cont.

Half-caste	...	...	...	15s. per day.
Half-caste	...	...	...	15s. 2d. per day.
Half-caste	6s. 8d. per day.
Rotuman	10s. per day.

DREDGE MASTER—

Half-caste	2s. 9d. per hour.
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FITTERS—

Half-caste	2s. 6d. per hour.
Half-caste	1s. 7½d. per hour.

JOINERS—

Fijian	7s. 6d. per day.
Half-caste	...	...	...	6s. 8d. per day.

LORRY DRIVERS—

European	18s. per day.
European	16s. 8d. per day.

MATE, M.S. *Derek*—

Half-caste	6s. 1½d. per day.
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PLUMBERS—

Indian	£19 per month.
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QUARRY FOREMAN—

Half-caste	£336 per annum.
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ROAD OVERSEERS—

European	£300 per annum.
European	£265 per annum.
European	£250 per annum.
Half-caste	£310 per annum.

TURNER—

European	2s. 9d. per hour.
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WATER-SUPPLY FOREMAN—

European	3s. 1½d. per hour or £1 5s. 0d. per day.
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WATER-FITTER—

Indian	£18 10s. per month.
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The following tables show the approximate cost of living with regard to certain classes of labourers, skilled workmen, clerks, and Government officials.

It is difficult to give an accurate indication of the actual cost of living of Fijian and Indian labourers. The tables show the cost of living of a labourer entirely dependent upon his wages and enjoying none of the privileges of an agricultural or industrial labourer under contract of service. The actual number of labourers entirely dependent upon their wages is small. In very many cases these labourers live in their own houses and cultivate small plots of land which enable them to grow a portion of their food supplies. It is also the common practice for Indian labourers to purchase paddy and husk their own rice. In these ways they can materially reduce their actual living costs. All Fijian labourers are land-owners and are under no economic necessity to work for wages as they can return and live on their own lands if they so desire. All Fijians and Indians receive free medical treatment at all Government hospitals. Agricultural and other labourers employed under contract of service are provided with food, lodging, and medical care. In general, the wages paid to Fijians and Indians, who live largely upon locally produced food-stuffs, are more than sufficient to meet their needs.

In the case of Europeans, who are dependent to a considerable extent upon imported food-stuffs, the cost of living rises rapidly.

This cost naturally depends upon individual taste, but the tables given show the cost of what is necessary to ensure health and a reasonably comfortable existence.

A list of average prices of commodities in common use is attached, and the following figures give an indication of the cost of living under normal social conditions.

House Rents.—The rent of furnished houses is from £9—£10 a month, and that of unfurnished houses from £5—£7 a month. A few flats are available, the rent for these being £6—£8 a month furnished, and £3—£4 unfurnished. Boarding house charges vary from £8—£10 a month, and hotels from £12—£20 a month.

Servants and Laundry.—Indian cooks receive from £4—£6 a month, and Indian houseboys from £3—£4 a month. Nurse girls, Fijian or Indian, can be obtained from £2—£3 a month. Garden boys' wages range from £2 10s.—£3 10s. a month. Laundry costs 5s. a month for a single person and from 30s.—£2 a month for a family.

Education.—Primary education can be obtained in Levuka, and primary and secondary education in Suva in Government schools. Tuition fees are as follows :—

	Children of Ratepayers.	Children of Non-Ratepayers.
Primary	Free	£2 2 0 a year.
Secondary	£6 0 0 a year	£7 10 0 a year.

A charge of £50 a year is made for boarding in the hostels attached to the Suva Grammar Schools.

For higher education and for health purposes many Europeans send their children to Australia or New Zealand. The average cost of education in these circumstances is about £150 a year.

Medical Fees.—The usual fee charged by a private medical practitioner is 10s. 6d. a visit. The fees charged in Government hospitals are 6s. a day for the public wards, and 10s. 6d. a day for private wards. Operation fees in these hospitals range from £1 1s. to £10 10s. Owing chiefly to high Customs duties, medicines and medical appliances are expensive.

Sports and Social Clubs.—Entrance fees to social clubs range from £2 2s.—£10 10s. and yearly subscriptions from £2 2s.—£4 4s. The entrance fees for tennis, golf, and cricket clubs are from £1 1s.—£2 2s. and the yearly subscription fees £1 1s.—£3 3s.

Holidays.—For health reasons it is advisable that Europeans should periodically visit countries which have a more temperate climate. The average return passage rates are as follows :

	£
New Zealand	10—25
Australia	20—50
England	166—200

A.—COST OF LIVING OF A EUROPEAN SKILLED WORKMAN.

Wages—£17 12s. 0d. per month.

(1) *Unmarried Man.*

	£	s.	d.
Board and lodging	7	10	0
Washing	0	15	0
	<hr/>		
	8	5	0
Balance remaining for incidentals, i.e., clothing, medical attention, sport, cigarettes or tobacco, taxes	9	7	0
	<hr/>		
	£17	12	0
	<hr/>		

(2) *Married Man (No children).*

	£	s.	d.
Rent of $\frac{1}{2}$ house	3	0	0
Milk (1 pint p.d.), about	0	8	0
Bread ($\frac{1}{2}$ 1-lb. loaf p.d.), about	0	8	0
Meat (1 lb. p.d.), about	1	0	0
Washing	0	15	0
Groceries, including vegetables	7	0	0
Lighting and firewood	1	0	0
	<hr/>		
	13	11	0
Balance remaining for incidentals as in A (1)	4	1	0
	<hr/>		
	£17	12	0
	<hr/>		

(3) *Married Man (2 children).*

	£	s.	d.
Rent of $\frac{1}{2}$ house	3	0	0
Milk (2 pints p.d.), about	0	16	0
Bread (1 1-lb. loaf p.d.), about	0	16	0
Meat ($1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. p.d.), about	1	10	0
Groceries, including vegetables	7	0	0
Lighting and firewood	1	0	0
	<hr/>		
	14	2	0
Balance remaining for incidentals as in A (1)	3	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£17	12	0
	<hr/>		

B.—COST OF LIVING OF A EUROPEAN OFFICER ON THE CLERICAL STAFF, RECEIVING SALARY AT THE RATE OF £20 PER MONTH, OR £240 PER ANNUM.

(1) *Unmarried Officer.*

Contributions to Widows and Orphans	£	s.	d.
Pensions Scheme	16	8	
Board and lodging—average cost	8	0	0
Washing	15	0	
	<hr/>		
	9	11	8

Balance remaining for incidentals, i.e., clothing, sports, cigarettes, tobacco, medical attention, entertaining, amusements, taxes, etc.	10	8	4
	<hr/>		
	£20	0	0

(2) *Married Man (No children).*

	Boarding. £ s. d.	Renting House. £ s. d.
Contributions to Widows and Orphans Pensions Scheme	16 8	16 8
Cost of board and lodging ...	16 0 0	
Washing	15 0	
	<hr/>	
Cost of living, if boarding ...	£17 11 8	
Rent of house, about ...		6 0 0
Milk (at 1 pint p.d.) about ...		8 0
Bread (at $\frac{1}{2}$ 1-lb. loaf p.d.) ...		8 0
Meat, about		15 0
Washing		1 0 0
Groceries, including vegetables		7 0 0
	<hr/>	
Costing of living if renting a house		16 7 8
Lighting		1 0 0
Balance remaining for incidentals, if lodging, as in B (1)	2 8 4	
Balance remaining, for incidentals, if renting a house, as in B (1)		2 12 4
	<hr/>	
	£20 0 0	£20 0 0

NOTE.—No provision is made for a servant. No table is given for an officer with a wife and 2 children as it is considered that it would be impossible for an officer to maintain his family in decent circumstances, on that salary, without running into debt.

C.—COST OF LIVING OF A EUROPEAN OFFICER RECEIVING SALARY AT THE RATE OF £500 PER ANNUM, OR £41 13s. 4d. PER MONTH.

(1) *Unmarried Man.*

	£	s.	d.
Contributions to Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Scheme	1	13	4
Board and lodging	9	0	0
Washing	15	0	
	<hr/>		
	11	8	4
Balance remaining for incidentals, i.e., clothing, entertaining, amusement, sport, medical attention, taxes, and car, etc.	30	5	0
	<hr/>		
	£41	13	4
	<hr/>		

(2) *Married Man (No children).*

	£	s.	d.
Contributions to Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Scheme	1	13	4
Rent of house	8	0	0
Servant	4	0	0
Washing	1	10	0
Groceries	7	0	0
Milk, about	15	0	
Meat, about	2	0	0
Bread, about	15	0	
Light and firewood	1	10	0
Vegetables	1	0	0
	<hr/>		
	28	3	4
Balance remaining for incidentals as in C (1)	13	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£41	13	4
	<hr/>		

(3) *Married Man (2 children).*

	£	s.	d.
Contributions to Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Scheme	1	13	4
Rent of house	9	0	0
Servant	4	0	0
Washing	1	10	0
Groceries	8	0	0
Milk	1	0	0
Meat	3	0	0
Bread	1	0	0
Light and firewood	1	10	0
Vegetables	1	0	0
	<hr/>		
	31	13	4
Balance remaining for incidentals as in C (1) including possible school fees for one or both children	10	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£41	13	4
	<hr/>		

COST OF LIVING FOR ONE WEEK OF MARRIED FIJIAN LABOURER.
Wages—15s. per week.

	s.	d.
Rent	3	0
Native food-stuffs	2	0
Tea		6
Rice	1	6
Fish	2	0
Soap		4
Kerosene		6
Sugar		6
	<hr/>	
	10	4
Balance for clothing and contingencies	4	8
	<hr/>	
	15	0
	<hr/>	

(Sometimes a number of households share a kitchen.)

COST OF LIVING FOR ONE WEEK OF A MARRIED INDIAN LABOURER.
Wages—15s. a week.

	s.	d.
Rent	3	0
Rice—3 lb. a day = 21 lb.	3	0
Dhall—12 oz. a day = 5½ lb.	2	0
Kerosene	6	
Mustard oil —1 bottle	6	
Tea	6	
Sugar—6 oz. a day	4	
Curry (mixed spices)	2	
Soap	4	
Matches	1	
	<hr/>	
	10	5
Balance for clothing and contingencies	4	7
	<hr/>	
	15	0
	<hr/>	

AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD-STUFFS IN COMMON USE.

<i>Commodity.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
	s. d.
Arrowroot	1 3 per lb.
Blue	1 3 per doz.
Baking Powder	1 8 per lb.
Barley	1 0 „
Beans—Haricot	8 „
Bovril—4 oz.	3 3 per jar.
Brasso	2 0 per tin.
Boot Polishes	8 „
Butter	1 8 per lb.
Bacon	1 8 „
Biscuits—	
Arrowroot	1 6 „
Sao	1 6 „
Assorted plain	1 6 „
Chocolate fingers	2 9 „
Vita Wheat—Peak Frean	3 6 „
Afternoon tea	3 0 per tin.

<i>Commodity.</i>					<i>Price.</i>		
					s.	d.	
Cloves	...	...	...	...	2	6	per lb.
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	1	6	per tin.
Chutney—10 oz.	...	...	...	...	2	3	per bot.
Corn Flour	...	...	...	...		8	per lb.
Clever Mary	...	...	...	...	1	4	per tin.
Cream—8 oz. tins	...	...	...	...	1	4	"
Candles	...	...	...	...	1	3	per lb.
Curry Powder	...	...	...	...	3	0	"
Cheese	...	...	...	...	1	2	"
Coffee	...	...	...	...	3	3	"
Coffee essence	...	...	...	...	2	6	per bot.
Cocoa—Bournville	...	...	...	...	2	9	per lb.
Flour	...	...	...	...		2½	"
Flour—self-raising	...	...	...	...		6	"
Fruits—dried—							
Sultanas	...	...	...	...		10	"
Currants	...	...	...	...		10	"
Apricots	...	...	...	...	1	6	"
Peaches	...	...	...	...	1	6	"
Pears	...	...	...	...	1	3	"
Apples	...	...	...	...	1	6	"
Prunes—5 lb. tins	...	...	...	...		10	"
Prunes—bulk	...	...	...	...		9	"
Fruits—tinned (30 oz. tins)—							
Peaches	...	...	...	...	1	2	per tin.
Pears	...	...	...	...	1	3	"
Apricots	...	...	...	...	1	2	"
Cherries	...	...	...	...	1	9	"
Plums	...	...	...	...	1	3	"
Apples	...	...	...	...	1	3	"
Assorted	...	...	...	...	13	6	per doz.
Glaxo—3 lb. tins	...	...	...	...	6	9	per tin.
Garlic	...	...	...	...	1	0	per lb.
Golden Syrup—2 lb. tins	...	...	...	...		10	per tin.
Ginger—ground—4 oz. tins	...	...	...	...		9	"
Honey	...	...	...	...	1	0	per lb.
Jelly crystals—assorted flavours	...	...	...	...		6	per pkt.
Jams—assorted	...	...	...	...	13	6	per doz.
					1	5	per tin.
Kerosene—4 gallon tin	...	...	...	...	11	0	"
1 gallon tin	...	...	...	...	3	6	"
Knife Polish	...	...	...	...		9	"
Lard—1 lb. tins	...	...	...	...	2	0	"

<i>Commodity.</i>				<i>Price.</i>	
Meats—tinned—				s.	d.
Corned Beef—2 lb.	...	...	...	2	3 per tin.
Roast Beef—1 lb.	...	...	...	1	3 "
Pork Sausages ...	...	...	...	1	6 "
Beef Sausages ...	...	...	...	1	3 "
Vienna Sausage	...	...	...	2	0 "
Sheep Tongues	...	...	...	1	6 "
Ox Tongues—2 lb.	...	...	...	5	0 "
Milk ...	...	...	...	1	0 "
Mustard— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tins	...	...	...	2	3 "
Matches	...	...	...	1	0 per doz.
Macaroni ...	...	...	...	1	9 per tin.
Oil—Lucca—quarts	...	...	...	5	0 per bot.
Mustard	...	...	...	1	6 "
Oatmeal—2 lb. tins...	...	...	...	1	9 per tin.
Oats—rolled—20 oz.	...	...	...	1	3 "
Pickles—assorted	...	...	...	1	9 per bot.
Pepper—white—6 oz. tins...	...	...	...	1	2 per tin.
Peel—Lemon	...	...	...	1	9 per lb.
Raisins—1 lb. packets	...	...	...	1	0 per pkt.
Rice—White broken	...	...	...		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb.
Table...	...	...	...		3 "
Ground	...	...	...	1	0 "
Soap—Household	...	...	...	1	0 per bar.
Sand Soap—imported	...	...	...		6 per cake.
Sunlight	...	...	...	1	6 per pkt.
Lifebuoy	...	...	...		6 "
Sauce—Worcestershire—med.	...	...	...	2	9 per bot.
Salt—Coarse	...	...	...		2 per lb.
Cerebos	...	...	...	1	3 "
Sugar—White	...	...	...		3 "
Brown	...	...	...		2 "
Icing—1 lb tins	...	...	...	1	3 per tin.
Loaf	...	...	...		7 per lb.
Spirits—methylated	...	...	...	1	8 per bot.
Suet ...	...	...	...	3	6 per tin.
Sago ...	...	...	...		5 per lb.
Starch	...	...	...		10 "
Tea (bushels)	...	...	...	3	3 "
No. 8	...	...	...	4	0 "
Bulk (Best Ceylon)	...	...	...	3	0 "
Bulk (Good Ceylon)	...	...	...	2	6 "
Tapioca	...	...	...		6 "
Treacle—2 lb. tins	...	...	...		9 each.
Vinegar	...	...	...	1	6 per bot.
Washing Soda	...	...	...		2 per lb.

PRICE LIST.

	s.	d.
Sirloins of beef		10
Rib, roast		7
Rump steak	1	0
Fillet steak	1	5
Beef steak... ..		8
Gravy beef		6
Shins of beef with bone		5
Knuckles of veal		5
Mince meat		6
Tripe		6
Suet		5
Beef dripping		6
Beef sausages		8
Pork sausages	1	1
Pickled pork	1	3
Rolled corn beef		8
Corned silverside		8
Corned brisket with bone		5
Ox tongues		8
Pork, legs... ..	1	3
Pork, loins	1	2
Pork chops	1	3
Mutton, legs	1	3
Mutton, shoulders	1	1
Mutton chops	1	4
Stewing mutton	1	0
Mutton flap		10
Best end neck of mutton	1	2
Lamb, legs	1	6
Lamb, forequarter	1	4
Veal fillets		11
Rolled veal		10
Veal cutlets		9
Ox hearts... ..		9
Ox tails		9
Liver		3
Brains	1	0 per set
Sheep kidneys		4 each
Ox kidneys	1	0 "
Sheep heads		9 "
Sheep fries		1 0 "
Kippers	5 for	1 6
Luncheon sausage		1 3
Schnapper		1 3

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The first school in Fiji was established in 1835 by the Methodist Mission and for many years facilities for education were provided by the missionary societies of which the Methodist Mission and the Roman Catholic Mission were the most active.

At the present time, in addition to Government the following bodies are actively engaged in education :—Methodist Mission commencing from 1835, Roman Catholic Mission from 1844, Church of England Mission from 1870, Seventh Day Adventist from 1889, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company from 1880, and local Fijian and Indian Committees.

The non-Government schools that comply with requirements as to buildings, equipment, and staff are eligible to receive grants-in-aid. £13,166 13s. 5d. was distributed among 159 schools in 1931.

The annual expenditure from Government funds, which amounted to about £3,000 per annum prior to 1915, increased to £34,027 in 1927, £36,089 in 1928, £40,610 in 1929, £46,838 in 1930, and was £44,900 in 1931.

The population of Fiji is composed mainly of Fijians, Indians, and Europeans, and each race has its own schools. There are, however, six schools that enrol children of all races and in many other schools that are regarded as being for one particular race a few children of other races are enrolled.

There are twelve schools for Europeans with an enrolment of 619 boys and 610 girls. All the schools give primary education and in addition the Government Grammar schools, St. Joseph's Convent, and St. Felix College, all of which are in Suva, have secondary departments. Pupils are prepared for the Entrance Examination of the University of New Zealand, or the Cambridge Local Examinations.

Girls may take a commercial course and needlework and cookery are included in the curriculum. No provision is made for technical education.

Children living in isolated places may enrol in the correspondence classes conducted by Government.

Part of the cost of education in the Government schools at Suva and Levuka is recovered from rates. The children of ratepayers are exempt from fees in the primary department and pay a fee of £2 per term in the secondary department. The fees for children of non-ratepayers are 14s. per term in the primary and £2 10s. 0d. per term in the secondary department with a reduction of 33½ per cent. when two or more of the same family attend.

Government maintains hostels in connexion with the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools, Suva, and Levuka Public School. The fees are £50 per annum in Suva and £30 in Levuka with reductions for two or more of a family.

The fees in non-Government schools range from 1s. a week to £2 per term.

Six Government schools, 43 assisted and 18 non-assisted schools enrol Indian pupils. During the year two new Indian schools were built by Government, only one of which was opened. The floods and hurricanes of February damaged or destroyed nearly one-fifth of the non-Government Indian schools. Most of these were repaired or rebuilt by the Indian people.

There is an increasing desire for the education of girls. Progress in this direction is retarded by the difficulty in obtaining the services of qualified women teachers.

Except in schools for all races, the medium of instruction up to Class 4 is Hindustani, although in most schools English is taught as a subject. After Class 4 English tends to become the medium of instruction although the vernacular is not neglected.

Indian boys may proceed to the Government secondary department at Natabua where they may prepare for the Entrance Examination of the University of New Zealand. Provision is made for boarders in the hostel, the fee being £24 per annum. The Marist Brothers' School in Suva prepares a few pupils for the Cambridge Local Examinations. Others can enter the Teachers' Training Schools by competitive examination. No provision has been made for technical education. Attendance is not compulsory. On 30th September, 3,542 Indian boys and 989 girls were enrolled.

The fee in the Government primary schools is 1s. a week. Most of the other schools rely on voluntary subscriptions, although the practice of charging school fees, usually 1s. a month, is growing.

For Fijians there are seven Government, 109 assisted and 93 unassisted schools. There are 7,775 Fijian boys and 5,497 girls at school. The education in these schools is primary, and much attention is paid to practical agriculture. The medium of instruction is usually Fijian up to Class 4 and English is taught as a subject. In the Government schools English tends to become the medium of instruction. These schools are residential and are partly self-supporting. All pupils engage in the activities connected with the school farm. Agriculture and wood-work are taught.

At Queen Victoria School, pupils pay a fee of £6 per annum. Half the cost of the other Government schools is recovered from provincial contributions.

As a rule no school fees are charged in non-Government schools. Apart from grants, teachers receive most of their remuneration in kind.

Fijian pupils may qualify by competitive examination for entrance to the Central Medical School, or the Teachers' Training Schools.

The Methodist Mission has made provision for technical instruction in the constructive trades at Davuilevu and in agriculture at Navuso. The latter is subsidized by Government.

There is no provision for the training of European teachers. There are four institutions for the training of non-European teachers, Government maintains one and the other three are controlled by the Methodist Mission, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the Seventh Day Adventist Mission respectively. The latter, which has restricted its activities to training teachers in the vernacular, does not receive Government assistance. No fees are charged in these institutions and in the first two, approved students receive an allowance of £6 a year from Government funds as well as free board.

The Boy Scouts' movement is still popular, particularly among the Fijians and Indians. There are 47 groups with 131 scouters and 957 scouts and cubs.

The Girl Guides Association completed its first year of activity and is supported by all races. There are 20 guiders, 213 guides, and 50 brownies. Government supported the movement by contributing £75 to the Boy Scouts' Association and £25 to the Girl Guides' Association. It also provided for transport on several occasions of scouts and guides in Government vessels.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The two inter-island subsidized services were maintained throughout the year.

The s.s. *Makatea* (814 tons) was replaced by the s.s. *Malake* (736 tons) on the service to Levuka and Taveuni, with calls at Savusavu and certain islands in the Lau Group on one journey each month, and Rabi and Rotuma on the other. In addition to the itineraries provided under contract, the s.s. *Malake* made one journey monthly to Lautoka.

By a re-arrangement of the time-table the M.S. *Sir John Forrest* (160 tons) now makes three journeys from Suva monthly instead of two. Intermediate ports between Nabouwalu and Labasa on the

Vanualevu Coast are served on the outward or inward journey alternatively, and the saving of time provides a more frequent service to the important centre of Labasa.

Vessels of the Fiji Shipping Company and various launches served the coastal ports of Vitilevu, and a subsidized launch service was in operation daily throughout the year, except on Sundays, on the Rewa River between Nausori and Vunidawa.

Nausori was served by motor car under contract from Suva daily and Korovou, Tailevu, weekly.

The principal means of external communication was provided by the R.M.S. *Aorangi* (17,491 tons) and *Niagara* (13,415 tons) of the Canadian Australasian Royal Mail Line, which called at Suva once in every four weeks in either direction on their voyages between Sydney, Auckland, Suva, Honolulu, and Vancouver. A subsidy at the rate of £5,000 per annum is paid to this Company.

Vessels of the Matson Navigation Company called at Suva once in each direction every three weeks on their voyages between Sydney, Suva, Honolulu, and San Francisco.

Eight steamers arrived at Suva from London via Panama during the year, at approximately six-weekly intervals and the s.s. *Ganges* arrived direct from Calcutta on the 4th September.

A four-weekly cargo service was maintained between Sydney, Lautoka, Suva and Levuka by the s.s. *Karetu*, and a four-weekly passenger and cargo service between Auckland, Suva, Tonga, and Samoa by the s.s. *Tofua*.

Wireless stations were maintained at Suva, Labasa, Taveuni, and Savusavu by the Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia), Limited.

In consequence of the destruction of portion of the overland line on Vitilevu by hurricane and flood in February, a temporary station was established at Lautoka during March.

Telegraphic and telephonic communication is provided between Suva, Nausori, and Vunidawa between Nausori, Korovou, Lodonu, and Levuka, and between Suva and Navua, and also between Nanukulua, Ellington, Vaileka, Tavua, Ba, and Lautoka.

Telephone exchanges are situated at Suva, Levuka, Nausori, Davuilevu, and Navua, and there are telephone lines at Savusavu and Taveuni extending along the coast for 62 miles and 40 miles respectively.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, Cable Company and by the station of the Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia), Limited, at Suva.

The following return shows the passenger carrying-capacity of the various charabancs in the Colony of Fiji for the year 1931 :—

District.	Number of Charabancs.	Number of passengers allowed.							
		8	10	12	13	15	16	17	18
Suva	47	9	—	1	—	20	1	13	3
Levuka	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Lautoka	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Rewa... ..	50	27	2	—	—	4	5	5	7
Ba	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Nadi... ..	9	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	—
Labasa	6	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	1
Ra	5	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1
Tavua	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Nadroga	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Savusavu	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Taveuni	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	135	37	2	1	7	41	8	21	18

Note.—This return does not include 41 lorries in the Colony registered for the carrying of goods and materials, and 221 private lorries.

Roads.

The total length of the roads of the Colony is made up as follows :—

	Miles.
Metalled	166½
Gravelled	183½
Motorable	109½
Earth	19
Bridle tracks	1,595½
Total	2,074½

At the present time some 90 miles of bridle tracks between Korovou in the Tailevu Province and Ellington in the Ra Province, and between Yako and Cuvu in the Nadroga Province, are being converted into motorable gravelled roads.

The roads already in existence are being improved from year to year, particularly those in the island of Vitilevu, and at the

present time it is possible to motor from Suva to Wailotua on the Wainibuka River, a distance by road of some 50 miles to the north of Suva, and from Yako on the west coast of Vitilevu to Vitilevu Bay, on the north-east corner of the same island, a distance of 150 miles. When the length of road between Wailotua and Vitilevu Bay is finished, together with the section from Yako southward to Cuvu on the south-west corner of Vitilevu, it will be possible to motor without a break for nearly three-quarters of the distance round the island of Vitilevu. All bridges are now constructed in reinforced concrete with steel girders and the perfected local design is both satisfactory and cheap. The standard loading adopted for bridges is a rolling load of 10 tons.

The prime requirement in connexion with the development of the roads of the Colony is that of providing a type of surfacing whose subsequent upkeep is reasonable and in keeping with the capacity of the Colony to pay and the traffic it has to carry. Various experiments have been tried to obtain the best surface suitable to local conditions and from present indications the type of surfacing which is giving the best results is the mulch gravelled type, which provides a good running surface which can be maintained at a much lower cost than either water-bound macadam or the different kinds of bitumen or tar surfacing. This class of road is being extended wherever possible.

The only statistics available on the traffic using the roads are incorporated in the attached census return for the Suva district.

Tramways.

The only railways or tramways in existence in Fiji are of the narrow 2 foot gauge laid down by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company on the Rewa River, along the sea coast from Sigatoka (south-west Vitilevu) to Tavua (north of Vitilevu), in the neighbourhood of Penang on the north-east corner of Vitilevu, and at Labasa on the island of Vanualevu. These railways are primarily for the transport of cane to the various sugar mills under the control of the Company, but the length from Sigatoka to Tavua provides a free passenger service operating to a schedule approved by the Government.

The total mileage of permanent line laid down by the Company is 380 miles.

About 220 miles of this total length consists of the main line from Sigatoka to Tavua with the necessary branch lines.

A total of 45 locomotives are used in connexion with the transport work of this Company.

TRAFFIC CENSUS—1930 AND 1931 COMPARED.

	1. Suva-Reva Road (Average of 3 pts.).	2. Prince's Road (Average of 2 pts.).	3. Suva Point Road (1 pt. only).	4. Depot Road (1 pt. only).	5. Navua Road (1 pt. only).	6. Suva District (Average of totals 1 to 5).	—
	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	Average for 24 hours, 1930.	
	Increase per day.	Increase per day.	Increase per day.	Increase per day.	Increase per day.	Increase per day.	Increase per day.
	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.	Decrease per day.
	1931.	1931.	1931.	1931.	1931.	1931.	—
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Motor lorries ...	240	133	266	386	219	249	—
" charabancs ...	320	39	31	146	96	126	—
" cars ...	496	356	673	626	309	497	—
" cycles ...	98	78	256	258	93	159	—
Bicycles ...	84	91	132	74	40	76	—
Horse carts ...	21	9	126	116	28	88	—
Sulkies ...	22	7	19	14	8	20	—
	17	9	28	21	1	12	—
	—	2	—	32	17	19	—
Totals ...	1,281	747	1,556	1,714	804	1,219	—
	1,116	526	721	758	359	695	—
	165	221	835	958	445	524	—

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Two private banks are operating in the Colony—the Bank of New South Wales, with three establishments, and the Bank of New Zealand, with two. The paid-up capital of the former is £8,780,000, while that of the latter is £6,858,113. The amount of deposits held by the Bank of New South Wales is £1,093,315, and by the Bank of New Zealand £465,172.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which during the year under review, the number of accounts increased from 9,977 to 10,858 while the amount of deposits made during the year decreased from £152,386 to £142,077. The total amount of deposits at the end of the year was £3,536 more than the amount on deposit at 31st December, 1930.

The amount at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1931, was £173,708 as against which were held :—

	£	£
Securities (market price on 31st December, 1931)	164,016	
Cash in hand	2,915	
	<hr/>	166,931
Decrease		<hr/> 6,777

The transactions of the Savings Bank for the year 1931 were as follows :—

	£	£
Income from Investments		8,402
Interest credited to depositors	5,422	
Salaries	1,528	
Expenses	246	7,196
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus		1,206

The rate of interest paid to depositors is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. up to £500, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on deposits exceeding £500 up to a maximum of £1,000.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Colony.

The currency in circulation consists of Government notes and British sterling coins which are the legal tender of the Colony.

The position of the Currency Notes Guarantee Fund is satisfactory, as will be seen from the following :—

	£
Liabilities :—	
Notes in circulation	405,384
Assets :—	
Gold reserve (sovereigns)	83,881
Securities (market price at 31st December, 1931)	359,806
Depreciation Fund investments	39,740
	<hr/>
	£483,427

Surplus on values at 31st December, 1931 ... £78,043

The transactions of the Currency Commissioners for 1931 produced a net surplus of £20,606 as follows :—

	£	£
Interest on Securities		20,626
Expenses	20	20
	<hr/>	
Surplus		£20,606

The natives refuse to recognize copper coins, and in country stores threepence is usually the lowest charge. The number of pennies in circulation is consequently small.

British weights and measures are standard in the Colony.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure from public funds on the various works carried out by the Public Works Department amounted in all to £166,690. and was incurred under the following headings :—

	£	s.	d.
Personal emoluments and other charges ...	22,442	19	5
Works recurrent	60,641	12	6
Works extraordinary	18,149	8	3
Loan works	52,887	19	1
Miscellaneous	12,568	14	9

The corresponding figures for the last five years are given hereunder for comparison :—

	£
1927	191,325
1928	205,234
1929	242,077
1930	212,792
1931	166,690

The administration of public works is under the control of the Commissioner of Works, with headquarters at Suva. For general executive purposes the Colony is divided into three districts with headquarters at Suva, Lautoka, and Levuka. Each of these districts is in charge of a District Engineer.

The Suva district is the most important and is based on Walu Bay near Suva where are situated the Government Stores, the machine shops, the repair shops, the Government slipways, the garages of the Department, and the offices of the District and Mechanical Engineers. The motor transport system, consisting of motor vehicles, inspection and towing launches, etc., also operates from Walu Bay. The large slipway was out of commission for about six months during the year, due to the carrying out of extensive repairs, but the small slip was fully employed, and the tonnages handled by the large and the small slips were respectively 4,769 and 1,662 tons.

Owing to the curtailment of the programme of public works more than sufficient labour was available to carry out the various works. The average number of workmen employed in the Suva district was—skilled 144; unskilled 353. The expenditure by the District and Mechanical Engineers was £53,334 3s. 2d. and £31,858 1s. 1d. respectively, giving a total expenditure for the Suva district of £85,192 4s. 3d.

Work on the trans-insular road was continued during the year, but little progress was made in the earlier months owing to shortage of the necessary constructional plant. This plant came to hand about the middle of the year and the work was then pushed forward vigorously with the result that there were about eight miles at the Tailevu or southern end and six miles at the Ellington or northern end almost completed by the end of the year.

The Cuvu-Yako road which will connect up Lautoka with the Sigatoka district was started about the middle of the year and good progress was made there, about eight miles out of the twenty-nine miles of the total length of road to be constructed being motorable by the end of the year.

During the year under review the roads on the western side of the island of Vitilevu, with the exception of Ra, were placed under the West Coast Road Board, and the Road Boards formerly functioning as separate units, viz., Nadi, Lautoka, Ba, and Colo North, were abolished. The executive functions of the Board are vested in the District Engineer, Lautoka, who is responsible for all the work undertaken and the expenditure involved.

The new system came into operation in June, 1931, and the benefits of unified control were very soon apparent, considerable economies were effected and the roads in this area by the end of the year were in a very satisfactory state notwithstanding that they had been severely damaged by the floods which accompanied the hurricane in the early part of the year.

The roads in the other parts of the group were well maintained, but, due to hurricane and flood damage, the following extra expenditure was incurred in the districts named :—

	£
Rewa	1,200
Tailevu Road	800
Lautoka	259
Nadarivatu	549
Nadi	300

These extra expenditures were offset by savings made in other districts.

The following bridges were completed during the year :—

<i>Location.</i>	<i>Length.</i> <i>Feet.</i>	<i>Cost.</i>		
		£	s.	d.
Waidalici	222	5,244	10	5
Wainivesi	90	733	12	3
Waivou	90	853	17	6
Wainivou	30	284	12	7
Waimaro No. 1	60	697	12	9
Waimaro No. 2	60	754	16	8
Waidina	30	380	2	4
Wailotua (not quite finished) ...	140	1,494	8	0
Lawai	30	354	16	11
Voua	90	596	4	0
Nalova	30	337	5	9
		£11,731	19	2

The above-named bridges are constructed with reinforced abutments and piers, with steel girders and with either reinforced concrete or timber decking. The Waidalici bridge is the largest of this type which has been constructed by the Department : it consists of four spans, one 30 feet and three 64 feet, giving a total length of 222 feet. The width between curbs is 16 feet. The piers are each founded on a nest of 10 reinforced concrete piles 14 inches by 14 inches in section, 45 feet long, driven into the river bed. The concrete piers are built on these nests, giving a suitable support for the broad flanged I girders of 40 inches by 12 inches section, three to a span, which carry the reinforced concrete deck : the bridge is designed to take a point load of 10 tons at the centre of the span and a uniformed load of 112 pounds to the square foot of deck area together with the weight of the structure itself. The cost of this bridge per foot run was £23 12s. 5d., a very satisfactory figure considering the conditions obtaining on site and the distance of the bridge from Suva.

The Lighthouse, which was under construction on the Emlynian shoal at the beginning of the year, was demolished by the hurricane in February, and in view of the difficulty of erecting a suitable

structure on this submarine danger, it has been decided for the present not to proceed with this work.

During the year native water-supplies were installed in the following villages :—

					£	s.	d.
Namomo, Rewa	...	...	...	...	11	6	8
Biaugunu, Colo East	...	...	...	...	48	10	11
Na Korovatu, Colo East	...	...	...	...	6	19	11
Dravuni, Kadavu	...	...	...	...	250	15	6
Galoa	...	...	...	...	146	4	3
Korolevu, Colo West	...	...	...	...	61	2	0
Serua, Navua	...	...	...	...	37	1	3
Cautata	...	...	...	...	192	3	2
					<hr/>		
					£754	3	8
					<hr/>		

The provision of water-supplies to the native villages throughout the Colony is proceeding steadily from year to year with advantage to the health of the communities so provided.

The maintenance of recurrent works was carried out during the year and the roads and bridges, buildings, water-supplies, etc., were satisfactorily maintained well within the allotted funds.

The roads of the Colony comprise a total length of 2,074½ miles made up, 362 miles metalled, 146½ miles unmetalled, and 1,565½ miles of bridle tracks.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The administration of justice throughout the Colony is provided for by the constitution of the Supreme Court and various District Courts of Summary Jurisdiction—Ordinance No. 4 of 1875 declares the Supreme Court to be a Court of Record and Supreme Court of Judicature in the Colony.

It consists of a Judge, called the Chief Justice, appointed from time to time by Letters Patent and holding office during His Majesty's pleasure. There is a Registrar and a staff of assistants.

Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1875, provision is also made for the appointment of a Sheriff whose duty it is to execute all process of the Supreme Court and to act as Marshal of the Supreme Court in its Admiralty jurisdiction. The Sheriff is assisted in his work by Deputy Sheriffs in the country districts, the duty being performed by the various District Commissioners.

The same Ordinance contains powers for the admission by the Chief Justice of barristers and solicitors to practise in the Colony. The terms of these admissions are further regulated by Rules of the Supreme Court, dated 14th May, 1883. Persons so admitted are deemed to be officers of the Supreme Court.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is defined by Sections 28, 29, and 30 of the Ordinance. By these Sections it is enacted that the Supreme Court shall within the Colony have the same jurisdiction as that which His Majesty's High Court of Justice has in England, and it is thereunder constituted a Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery Assize and *Nisi Prius*, with like powers and jurisdiction as such Court has in England.

It is a Court of Equity and has within the Colony the same jurisdiction as the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, and the Chief Justice is vested with the same powers and authorities as the Lord Chancellor of England. It is further a Court of Probate and a Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, and under an Order in Council, dated 10th March, 1894, an Admiralty jurisdiction of the Court was also established.

In addition to the local Ordinances, the Common Law, the Rules of Equity, and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England on 2nd January, 1875, are in force in the Colony, but only so far as the circumstances of the Colony and its inhabitants permit.

During the year there are four Criminal sessions of the Court sitting as the Central Criminal Court. These sessions are held at Suva every third month. The Court also goes on Circuit at regular intervals each year to obviate the expense and inconvenience of bringing into Suva cases from some of the outlying districts.

The Criminal Procedure of the Supreme Court is laid down by Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, by which it is directed that trials shall be either by a jury of seven or by the Chief Justice sitting with assessors. When the accused or the person against whom the crime has been committed is a native of the Colony, or a Polynesian, or native of India or China, or any Pacific Island, the trial takes place before the Chief Justice with the aid of assessors in lieu of a jury, unless the Chief Justice shall for special reasons think fit to order a jury. It is provided that the opinion of each assessor shall be given orally and recorded in writing, but the decision shall be vested exclusively in the Judge. In jury cases, the members of the jury are required in the first instance to give a unanimous verdict, but if after a deliberation of at least four hours they are unable to agree, the Court can accept a majority verdict of not less than 5 to 2.

In ordinary cases two assessors sit with the Chief Justice; in capital cases there must not be less than four assessors, Male residents, of an age between 21 and 60, with a competent knowledge of English and a gross income of £50 a year, are liable to be called as jurymen, with the exception of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, Government officers, persons employed by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, practising physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, barristers and solicitors in actual practice and their clerks, clergymen and ministers, naval and military officers on full pay, masters of vessels and licensed pilots, salaried officials of the Municipal Council, and persons disabled by

mental and bodily infirmity. Persons are called to serve as assessors from lists compiled by the Colonial Secretary, or such other officer as the Governor may designate, consisting of such male persons as are considered qualified from their education and character to serve in such a capacity. Exemptions from serving as assessors are similar to those in the case of jurymen. In capital cases sentence of death is pronounced by the Chief Justice. It is laid down in Section 36 of Ordinance 6 of 1875 that the Chief Justice shall forward to the Governor a copy of his notes of evidence taken at the trial with a report containing any recommendations or observations he may think fit to make. The Governor after considering the report in Executive Council communicates the terms of his decision to the Chief Justice, who causes the tenor and substance to be entered in the Court records. The Governor in these cases issues either a death warrant, an order for sentence of death to be commuted, or a pardon.

On the civil side, the Supreme Court has unlimited jurisdiction within the Colony and is governed in its practice by the Civil Procedure Rules, dated 11th March, 1876, as amended by subsequent rules. These Rules are in substance the same as the rules contained in the first schedule to "The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1875," forming the practice of the High Court of Justice in England, and where no other provision is made by "The Civil Procedure Rules (1875)" or by any other rules of the Supreme Court the procedure and practice for the time being of the Supreme Court of Judicature in England is in force.*

The Civil Procedure Rules have been supplemented in special matters by other Rules, the chief of which are :—

The Bankruptcy Rules, 1890,

Rules of the Supreme Court (Probate), 1905,

Rules of 1906 dealing with Originating Summonses and Motions.

Provision is made for obtaining evidence for foreign Courts and Tribunals under Rules made in 1908, and service out of the jurisdiction and of foreign process within the jurisdiction are covered by Rules made in 1912.

The ordinary sittings of the Supreme Court are held in Suva and are three in number, Michaelmas Sittings beginning on the 1st November, Easter Sittings on the 1st March, and Trinity Sittings on the 1st August.†

The only appeal from the Supreme Court is to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, both Criminal and Civil, are, in the country districts, presided over by the District Commissioners to whom the various districts are assigned, and in Suva, by the Chief Police Magistrate. Broadly speaking, the powers of

* Cf. Rules of Supreme Court, 1894, p. 394, Royal Gazette, 1893.

† Rules, 1906.

these officers are confined to dealing with minor offences on the criminal side with power to inflict a maximum penalty of six months' imprisonment, while on the civil side the Summary Procedure Rules of 1916 limit their jurisdiction as Commissioners of the Supreme Court to claims not exceeding the amount of £50.

District Commissioners have Criminal jurisdiction throughout the Colony, but their Civil jurisdiction as Commissioners does not extend beyond the limits of the Magisterial districts to which they are appointed. District Commissioners also conduct the preliminary investigations in all indictable cases, the procedure being laid down in Ordinance No. 3 of 1876. Appeal from decisions of these inferior Courts to the Supreme Court is provided* in criminal matters when (a) the amount adjudged to be paid exceeds £3, or (b) a person has been adjudged to be imprisoned without the option of a fine, or (c) a charge has been dismissed, or (d) in any other case with leave of the Court where the question involved is one which, in the opinion of the Court, is of sufficient importance to justify an appeal, provided that the party did not plead guilty, and also that an appeal from a decision dismissing a charge shall in every case be by way of a stated case on a point of law. Appeals to the Supreme Court from decisions of Commissioners in civil matters are provided for under the Summary Procedure Rules, 1916, in all cases in which any judgment or order is pronounced for or in respect of any sum or matter at issue above the amount or value of £10.

Administration in the districts is supplemented by Native Regulations which provide for the establishment of Courts having jurisdiction over natives of the Colony only. A new edition of these Regulations was brought into force by Proclamation in September, 1928. The Courts constituted under the Native Affairs Ordinance, 1876, and these Regulations, are of two kinds. Firstly, there are the Provincial Courts composed of the European Magistrate (District Commissioner) sitting with the Native Stipendiary Magistrate and dealing with matters under the Native Courts Code, 1927, and the other Regulations passed by the Native Regulation Board to govern the life of the natives in accordance with their customs, and their communal social system and their system of land-tenure. These Courts are given minor criminal and civil powers over natives and can hear petitions for divorce from natives but cannot pronounce decrees, the documents in each case being forwarded to the Chief Justice for actual decision. Secondly, there is the District Court, presided over by the Native Stipendiary Magistrate sitting alone, whose jurisdiction is limited to petty offences amongst natives involving a maximum penalty of 40s. or imprisonment for two months, and in civil matters having jurisdiction where the sum of money or the value of the property claimed does not exceed 80s.

* Ordinance 2 of 1903.

There is one Judge in the Colony, the Chief Justice, 17 Magistrates (District Commissioners), 63 Justices of the Peace, and 28 Native Stipendiary Magistrates.

Provision is made for appeals from the District Court to the Provincial Court and from the Provincial Court to the Supreme Court.

There were 35 criminal cases heard at the sessions during 1931 as against 48 for 1930; of these 3 were murder charges involving 7 accused.

Eighty-four civil cases were instituted in the Civil division and were composed as follows:—actions for recovery of debt, etc., 50; actions brought under mortgages and agreements, 10; recovery of rent, rates, etc., 5; originating summonses, 3; specific performance, 2; actions for damages, 3, and miscellaneous 11.

No civil appeals were lodged in 1931, but there were 5 criminal appeals.

In the Divorce Court 12 petitions were filed, of which 5 were European and half-caste petitioners, and 7 Indian petitioners. There were 89 petitions for divorce by native Fijians.

Sixty-six grants were made in the Probate Jurisdiction; of these 37 were grants of probate, 15 Letters of Administration, and 14 re-seals of Colonial and other grants.

Two petitions were filed in the Bankruptcy Court, both debtors being Indians.

There were no applications for admission as barristers and solicitors during the year. There are 13 European and 3 Indian practitioners in the Colony.

A comparative table of cases heard in the various divisions of the Supreme Court from 1926 to 1931 is given below.

Year.	Civil.	Divorce.	Native Divorce.	Criminal.	Bankruptcy.	Civil appeal.	Criminal appeal.	Grants of probate, etc
1926...	68	4	74	38	3	4	6	62
1927...	73	6	72	27	1	2	—	75
1928...	75	5	240	49	2	3	5	69
1929...	77	10	175	55	4	1	7	74
1930...	115	13	73	48	3	6	3	96
1931...	84	12	89	35	2	—	5	66

Police.

(a) *Strength*.—On 31st December, 1931, the authorized strength of the Constabulary was:—

Europeans:—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspector-General	1
District Inspectors	5
Sub-Inspectors, 1st grade	4
Sub-Inspectors, 2nd grade	8

Fijians :—

N.C.O.'s	...	...	...	...	...	22
Constables	...	...	...	...	...	89

Indians :—

N.C.O.'s	...	...	...	...	...	13
Constables	...	...	...	...	...	75

The headquarters of the Force are at Suva, with a central station at Totogo, and a depot at Nasova.

The Force is armed with Lee Enfield (short) rifles. Being quasi-military in organization the Constabulary is required to repress internal disturbances and defend the Colony against external aggression.

Special Constables under the command of the Inspector-General may be called upon when necessary in cases of tumult or riot.

There are nineteen detachments distributed throughout the Colony. In those districts where there are no officers the detachments come under the supervision of District Commissioners.

(b) *Expenditure.*—The total cost of the Force for all services was £24,838 9s. 10d., and the cost per caput of population was 2s. 9d.

(c) *Crime.*—The number of persons prosecuted for offences of all kinds was 2,253, classified as follows :—

Offences against the person	...	...	...	172
Offences against property	...	...	...	382
Other offences	...	...	...	1,699

(d) *Traffic.*—Motor traffic is under the control of the Constabulary. Registries exist in those districts where officers are stationed.

The number of motor vehicles registered in the Colony is 1,386, being as follows :—

Motor cars for private use	...	...	...	539
Public motor cars	...	...	...	276
Lorries	...	...	...	397
Motor cycles	...	...	...	174

Two hundred and ninety-nine persons were convicted of offences against the Traffic Ordinance and Regulations.

Heavy motor vehicles exceeding 2½ tons gross weight unladen, and the use of motor vehicles having a loaded weight of more than six tons are prohibited.

The existing roads, many of which have no proper stone foundations, are lightly constructed; and road bridges are mostly designed for a rolling load of 10 tons.

There are 151 light passenger buses or charabancs, registered, and of this number 108 ply for hire between Suva and Rewa. The

number of passengers carried by these vehicles is determined as follows :—

- $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton vehicle, 8 passengers,
- 1-ton vehicle, 10 passengers,
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ -ton vehicle, 14-18 passengers.

(e) *Training*.—Regular parades are held throughout the year and the men are put through an annual course of musketry. The Constabulary parade for annual inspection by the Governor, and also with the Defence Force on ceremonial occasions. Such instruction as is possible is given but in the absence of a reserve it is difficult to arrange for a complete course of training for recruits.

(f) *Health*.—The health of the Force was good throughout the Colony. The Headquarters' strength is subjected to daily medical inspection by either a Fijian or an Indian medical practitioner.

(g) *Transport*.—Officers are required to find their own means of transport (car, motor cycle, or horse), for which they receive allowances, but the rank and file discharge their police duties on foot.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS FOR VARIOUS CRIMES AND OFFENCES FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
The number of summary convictions:—				
1. Offences against the person ...	86	138	417	297
2. Praedial larceny				
3. { Malicious injuries to property ... Offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injuries to property) }	222	312	247	205
4. Other crimes:—				
Offences against the Masters and Servants Ordinance, including Ordinances relative to Indentured Coolies.	4,373	4,639	4,227	4,116
Offences against Revenue Laws, Municipal, Road and other Laws relating to the social economy of the Colony.				
Miscellaneous minor offences ...				
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts:—				
1. { Murder of wife or concubine ... Murder of child Murder other than wife, concubine, or child.	20	13	30	13
Manslaughter				
Attempted murder				
2. { Rape Unnatural crime... .. Other offences against the person }	—	—	—	—
3. Praedial larceny				
4. { Offences against property with violence to the person. Other offences against property }	17	32	24	15
5. Other crimes	21	—	5	2

Prisons.

The control of the prisons of the Colony is vested in the Superintendent of Prisons. The main prison is situated at Suva, the capital of the Colony, where the Superintendent of Prisons resides. There are in addition 17 provincial gaols where short-term prisoners are confined. District Commissioners and in some cases Constabulary officers are *ex officio* Superintendents of these provincial or local gaols. Prisoners at these gaols serve a useful purpose in maintaining and keeping the Government stations clean and tidy. Each gaol is visited weekly by a District Commissioner who hears any complaints made by prisoners and sees that the regulations are complied with. The Superintendent of Prisons makes periodical visits to out-stations and inspects all gaols throughout the Colony.

The Suva gaol is an up-to-date establishment. The buildings are of modern construction and are built of brick and concrete, thus reducing the danger of fire to a minimum. The gaol is connected with the main electrical supply of Suva. Each prisoner is provided with a separate cell, well lighted and ventilated. Although the system is penal every effort is made with available staff to instruct prisoners morally, physically, and industrially. There are actually established under competent European overseers a tin-smithy, a bakery, a sailmaking shop, a tailoring shop, a carpenter's shop, a blacksmithy, and a mat-making factory. The gaol bakery supplies all the bread required by Government institutions situated at Suva. The output for 1931 was 283,634 lb. of bread. In addition, there is a modern electrical wood-sawing plant installed at the gaol, and all schools, hospitals, and other Government institutions situated at Suva are supplied with firewood cut by prison gangs and sawn at the gaol.

Medical care of prisoners.—There is a modern fully equipped infirmary adjacent to the gaol but outside the four walls, situated in ideal surroundings complete with lawns and flower gardens and not enclosed by dismal walls. A qualified Indian Medical Practitioner is in residence, and the work is under the direct supervision of a qualified European Medical Officer who visits thrice weekly and more often when required. During the year there were 133 cases treated. There was one death. The main ailments and diseases treated were influenza, ankylostomiasis, dysentery and dyspepsia.

Marks system.—The marks system is in vogue whereby male prisoners can reduce their sentences by one-fourth by good conduct and industry, and females by one-third.

Library.—There is a library, and prisoners are provided with religious, educational, and other suitable literature.

Staff.—The gaoler and overseers are European. The subordinate staff are native Fijians and Sikhs from India.

Juveniles.—The question of dealing more effectively with juvenile delinquents is still under consideration by the Government. Various alternative schemes are being investigated, including proposals for the appointment of probation officers.

Classification.—Prisoners are classed as follows:—

First Class:—Debtors, persons confined for contempt, persons committed under civil process, or for failure to find sureties to keep the peace.

Second Class:—Persons awaiting trial or under remand.

Third Class:—Persons under sentence of imprisonment only.

Fourth Class:—Prisoners sentenced to penal servitude or imprisonment with hard labour.

Discipline:—Discipline is well maintained by an experienced European staff. All work is directly supervised by competent European overseers under the instruction of the gaoler.

Religious teachings:—All classes of prisoners are visited by their religious teachers and ministers.

Ministers or Priests of the following denominations visit regularly:—Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Sanathan Dharm, Mohammedan, and Sikh.

CHAPTER XIV.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

No change has been made during the year in the system of native administration, which is mainly conducted under the Native Regulations of 1927. These Regulations provide for the carrying out of all communal duties such as housebuilding, village sanitation, cultivation of food crops and maintenance of communal property, care of the sick and control of infectious diseases. They also provide for the levying of rates to defray the expenses of provincial administration, the establishment of native courts for dealing with infringements of the Regulations and offences against the native penal code, and for the constitution of Native District and Provincial Councils and the Great Council of Chiefs. The District Councils are composed of tribal chiefs and village headmen and are presided over by the Buli of the district. These Councils have power to make regulations, subject to the approval of the Governor, concerning the good government and welfare of their respective districts and to elect representatives to the Provincial Councils. The Provincial Councils are composed of native officials and representatives elected by the District Councils and are presided over by the Secretary for Native Affairs or such officer as may be appointed by the Governor. These Councils have power with regard to their respective provinces similar to those enjoyed by District Councils and also elect representatives to the Great Council of Chiefs. This Council is composed of native officials, Chiefs nominated by the Governor or the Secretary for Native Affairs, and representatives elected by the Provincial Councils. The Council meets every two years and advises the Governor on all matters

pertaining to the welfare and progress of the Fijian race and nominates Chiefs from whom the Governor selects the Fijian representatives in the Legislative Council. This system of Native Councils and Native Courts provides the Fijians with a very fair measure of self-government and ensures an adequate representation of the wishes and aspirations of the natives.

The general health of the natives is under the care of the medical service, the staff of which includes 18 European medical officers and 50 native medical practitioners. In addition there is a large staff of trained European nurses in the general hospitals and 50 native obstetric nurses distributed throughout the country districts. During the year four general and 15 provincial hospitals were in operation. Native obstetric nurses are trained at the Suva and Lautoka Hospitals and native medical practitioners at the Central Medical School attached to the War Memorial Hospital, Suva. The total sum provided for medical services during the year was £76,908, to which the natives through the provincial funds contribute £4,700. In addition the natives assist materially in the building and upkeep of medical stations and dispensaries and in the transport of native medical practitioners and native nurses. In return they receive free medical and surgical treatment at all hospitals and at the hands of all European medical officers, native medical practitioners, and native obstetric nurses. The majority of the native medical practitioners and native obstetric nurses are not attached to hospital but travel throughout the native villages and attend to the natives in their own homes. Apart from the general medical service the campaign for the treatment of ankylostomiasis and yaws conducted under the direction of Dr. Lambert of the Rockefeller Foundation was continued during the year with marked success. A great deal of work was also done under the same direction in improving the sanitary condition of native villages and Indian settlements by the provision of bore-hole latrines.

Throughout the year the general health condition of the natives was good and no serious epidemic occurred. The native birth-rate was 35.33 per thousand, and the death-rate 22.22 per thousand as against 31.24 in 1930. The total increase in the population was 1,225 as against 478 in 1930. There were 1,085 marriages amongst the natives as compared with 744 during the previous year. The total native population at the end of 1931 was estimated at 93,414, which gives an increase of 9,056 since the last census of 1921.

Child welfare work, which was begun in 1927 has been continued and enlarged. At the close of the year this work was in operation under the direction of qualified European nurses in eight provinces and under the voluntary control of Dr. Roberts, the wife of the American Consul, in the native towns around Suva and Nausori. In the other provinces considerable advances have been made in carrying out this work by committees of native women

working in co-operation with native medical practitioners and native obstetric nurses under the general supervision of the Travelling Medical Officer. The work is conducted on the most practical lines in order to train native women in their own homes in the better care of their children and to provide immediate treatment for minor ailments. The effect of this work is an undoubted improvement in the general health of the community and in the conditions under which the children are reared. The work is being adopted with a growing enthusiasm by all sections of the native community and its continuance and improvement will undoubtedly have a very beneficial effect upon the race.

All Fijian children are required, under the Native Regulations, to attend school up to the age of 14 years. No restrictions are placed upon the parents' choice of a school, which is only limited by geographical conditions and the capacity of the schools available. Statistics with regard to native education, both by Government and by the various Mission schools are given in another section of this Report. There is no doubt that the Fijians are keenly interested in the education of their children and the rapid development of educational facilities is only limited by lack of funds. The Fijians, through their provincial funds, contribute to the maintenance of the Government Provincial Schools which are under the direct control of European Headmasters. In addition, some provinces support local schools under the control of Provincial Commissioners or Rokos. Apart from the large Central Mission Schools, the district and village schools are supported partly from Government grants-in-aid and partly from local native contributions in money or kind. The policy of combining the small village schools with district or group schools has been continued. This policy, by decreasing the number of schools, makes possible the provision of more highly trained teachers and results in a higher standard of education. These schools provide an elementary education to the majority of Fijian boys and girls within easy access of their homes and without divorcing them from parental control.

An education of a more advanced type, including practical agricultural and manual instruction is provided in the Government Provincial Schools and the Central Mission Institutions. Selected pupils from these schools may continue their education at the Queen Victoria Memorial School, from which many pass to the Teachers' Training Institution, the Central Medical School, the Agricultural Department Training Centre, and the Government and Provincial services. Although funds, either Government or native, do not permit of universal education of the Fijians, there is no doubt that the improved facilities for the training of teachers and the redistribution of Government grants-in-aid is effecting a continuous improvement in the standard of native education throughout the group. The experience now being gained in the establishment and control of

district and group schools will enable this system to be economically and efficiently extended to embrace the whole population when the necessary funds are available.

The vast majority of the Fijians continue to depend for their livelihood upon the cultivation of their tribal lands. Although sufficient food for their maintenance can easily be grown under their simple and time-honoured method of cultivation, their future economic development will largely depend upon their adoption of more scientific agricultural methods. In this connexion considerable progress has been made. The Government advance for the purchase of agricultural implements has been fully utilized, and in various parts of the Colony Fijians are being trained in the use of animals, agricultural implements, and scientific methods of cultivation by Government schoolmasters, officers of the Agricultural Department and officials of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company. A considerable portion of the copra exported from the Colony is produced from native plantations. In the chief producing areas the natives are assisted and advised by Agricultural Officers in the best methods of increasing the yield and quality of copra, of minimizing the incidence of disease, and of planting up new areas. The personal supervision of these officers undoubtedly stimulates the production of a greater quantity and better quality of copra and increases the prosperity of the natives. The production of bananas for export is almost entirely in the hands of the natives. Under the supervision of Government Agricultural Officers considerable progress has been made in the use of animals, of implements, in the eradication of disease, and the planting up of new areas with healthy suckers, and in the general improvement of native banana plantations. The system of granting licences to banana buyers was continued throughout the year. Under this system the natives are assured of a steady market throughout the year for fruit of standard quality. The minimum prices to be paid by the buyers are fixed from time to time by a Board appointed by the Governor. These prices vary according to market conditions in New Zealand and ensure, so far as may be possible, a fair return to both producers and exporters.

The work of the Agricultural Instructor in training adult Fijians in the Sigatoka Valley in modern agricultural methods has been placed under the Agricultural Department and is now under the direct control of the officer in charge of the Government cotton farm. Over 400 acres of land in different districts have been placed at the disposal of the scheme by the native owners. The Fijians selected to cultivate these lands have been provided with implements and animals and their work is supervised by one European and two native Instructors. The main crops now under cultivation are cotton and rice, and considerable progress has been made in the establishment of these crops on the various blocks of land handed

over for that purpose. The scheme provides a thorough practical training in modern methods of planting, cultivating, harvesting, and marketing profitable crops. The work is enthusiastically supported by the natives and there is every indication that its continuance will add materially to the prosperity of the natives in the districts concerned.

Rapid progress was made during the year in the extension of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's efforts to establish Fijians as cultivators of sugar-cane. Settlements of Fijian tenant farmers have been established in most of the sugar growing areas. Large areas of good cane land have been divided into 10 acre blocks and on each block a Fijian family has been settled. The necessary implements and animals have been provided by the Company and all work from the ploughing of the land to the harvesting of the crop is carried out under the expert supervision of the Company's officers. Although co-operative methods are used amongst the settlers in the heavy work of harvesting each individual receives the proceeds of the crop grown by him. This scheme provides the most finished training in the scientific cultivation of sugar-cane, including the rotation of crops and the use of artificial and green manures. Apart from the profit derived by the actual settlers the scheme provides valuable training centres in which Fijians can learn scientific methods of agriculture which they can apply on their own lands. Outside these settlements there has been a considerable increase in the production of native-grown sugar-cane and there is every indication that before long the Fijians will take a much larger share in the chief industry of the Colony.

The past year has been one which has made severe calls upon the industry and courage of the Fijians. In addition to the damage inflicted by the hurricanes and floods of 1929 the phenomenal floods and high winds experienced in the opening months of the year caused widespread havoc amongst native villages and plantations over a very large portion of the Colony. Coincident with the destruction of many of their villages and much of their food crops, the fall in the market price of natural products, occasioned by the world depression, very greatly reduced the value of such crops as remained. Despite these adverse circumstances the natives tackled the work of rehabilitating themselves with energy and cheerfulness. At the close of the year practically all the native villages had been rebuilt or repaired and native food gardens restocked. In addition, much progress had been made with the planting of crops for profit. The year has shown a definite desire on the part of a large number of Fijians to adopt more advanced methods of agriculture and to take full advantage of the instruction and assistance given by the Agricultural Officers. The growth of this spirit amongst the Fijians holds out very definite hopes for their economic development.

CHAPTER XV. INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Vital Statistics.

According to figures given in the Registrar-General's report the total Indian population of the Colony is now calculated at 76,722, an increase of 1,605 during the year. As remarked elsewhere in this Report the increase has been reduced by about 200 owing to departures exceeding arrivals. The birth-rate fell from 36.02 per 1,000 to 33.44 and the death-rate from 12.30 to 10.19, the fall being due apparently to absence of epidemic diseases. The infant mortality fell from 9.05 to 7.68.

The number of marriages registered during the year was 954. This shows a considerable decrease on the figures for the previous year, but as was explained the large increase was due to a rush to register marriages under the new system. The marriage question is noted on elsewhere in this Report.

Economic.

It is not possible to give with any approach to accuracy, the area of agricultural land held by Indians, but according to returns of the Lands Department, some 64,000 acres are held under native leases and a further area of some 2,500 acres under Crown leases. In addition to this, an area amounting probably to 2,000 or 3,000 acres is owned by Indians as freehold and they occupy as tenants of freeholders a further area which can only be estimated very roughly, but probably amounts to about 5,000 acres. They also occupy as cane growing tenants of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, an area of some 33,000 acres. The total area held is therefore somewhat more than 110,000 acres, the great bulk of this being under cultivation.

There is little change to record in the cane growing holdings. During the year the Sugar Company leased out an additional 2,000 acres to tenant farmers principally in the Ra district, where new areas have been brought under cane for the first time towards the boundary of the Colo North district. The area held by independent growers has remained about the same, and may be put at 32,000 acres, giving a total of some 65,000 acres. The amount of cane supplied to the mills fell from 516,000 tons in 1929, and 542,882 tons in 1930, to 470,473 tons in 1931, and the value from about £400,000 in 1929, and £452,000 in 1930, to £369,211 in 1931, the average value of cane per ton falling from 16s. 8d. to 15s. 8d. Reduction in tonnage and value has been due to the damage done by the floods and hurricanes of the early part of the year and the subsequent drought. Though there has been some general falling off, the decrease was most marked in the areas supplying cane to the Ba Mill. In particular the south-west part of the Tavua area

suffered severely from drought and there is some depression among the independent growers of this area who happen to be numerous. On the whole, however, it may be said that the Indian cane growers of the Colony have not suffered so severely from the hurricanes and general depression as other classes of the population.

The rice crop comes next in importance, but suffered severely from vicissitudes of season almost everywhere and there was but little surplus in the areas in which rice growing is concentrated for supply to the Rice Mill. Imports of rice rose to an abnormal figure, over 3,200 tons being imported from Rangoon and Australia. Fortunately, conditions towards the end of the year were favourable and there seems every prospect now of a good rice harvest in 1932. The whole matter of the future of the rice industry in the Colony has been recently under consideration, and, though it has been decided to keep the Rice Mill open for the milling of surplus produce during 1932, it is probable that progressive steps will be taken towards releasing the industry from Government control. As was pointed out in last year's Report, it is only a small proportion of the rice produced in the Colony which is machine milled, and the principal business of the Government Rice Mill is with a few areas in which rice growing is concentrated. The great bulk of the local rice is hand-milled either by the growers themselves or by purchasers of paddy for domestic consumption as required, and as hand-milling costs practically nothing the practice from the point of view of the small grower or consumer is of economic advantage. It remains to be seen whether the future of machine milling will lie with the big Government Mill or with small mills scattered about the Colony. In the near future at any rate there would seem little prospect of an export business and the demand for milled rice is limited. It is perhaps not improbable that a paddy distributing business will spring up supplying both the small mills and purchasers of paddy for domestic husking. Such a solution of the problem would be of advantage both to Indian producers and consumers.

The cotton industry encountered the full force of the storms and suffered still more severely. The disaster was the greater because up to the date of the hurricane prospects were promising and a crop of 700 to 800 bales was expected from 2,500 acres. Strenuous efforts were made to secure fresh late sowings, but a pronounced drought set in almost at once, and many missed the propitious period. The actual crop only amounted to 260 bales. Prospects for the 1932 crop are favourable but owing to the shortage of rice, rice sowings have received attention first and cotton sowings have been delayed. Normally it is expected that cotton and rice will balance each other. It was very unfortunate that the circumstances of the year were unfavourable to both.

With the partial failure of the rice crop and the need in a number of places for a quick growing crop, yielding a good return in the

shape of food, the area under maize in the Colony during the year probably increased considerably. That maize is an important food staple with considerable elements in the rural population is undoubted, and in many places resort is made to primitive methods of grinding the grain for flour. The question whether the milling of maize for sale can be undertaken as an economic proposition has still to be investigated.

A certain amount of attention has been paid during the year to the growth of what may be termed minor crops. There can be little doubt that as the operations of the Agricultural Department extend, progress will result in a number of directions. As was remarked last year the Indian farmer left to his own resources is not unenterprising and variations in conditions have led to particular areas specializing in such produce as tobacco, peanuts, and different varieties of beans. Dhall perhaps stands in a class by itself as it is generally grown both in rotation, and on hill slopes as a food crop wherever conditions are favourable. There is certainly room for the improvement of the production of this crop as a necessary article of diet for considerable sections of the population.

With regard to minor commercial crops, there is a tendency in some parts to violent fluctuations in production. The Indian farmers round Suva for instance a few years ago concentrated largely on yaqona. The price fell seriously and yaqona has been replaced by bananas which are not easy to sell. Yaqona has risen in price and a revival of this crop may take place.

With regard to this general question of the production of what may be called minor crops, reference was made in last year's Report to their importance as conducing a variety of resource and a more balanced system of agriculture. Climate and conditions are favourable. The human agency is there, ready and able to take advantage of development. But it must be realized that the export business is not the only thing that counts, and that there is a wide margin for the reduction of imports by production for the local market.

The returns of business occupations show 778 store licences taken out as compared with 1,004 in 1930, but returns are unreliable as they are not yet standardized. The number of drivers' licences for public vehicles during the year was 775 against 784 in 1930 and 724 in 1929. Private drivers' licences rose from 435 in 1929, and 273 in 1930, to 568 in 1931. The number of cars registered as owned by Indians in 1931 was 350 against 377 in 1930. The number of motor lorries rose from 135 to 196. The majority of these are used for passenger traffic and there are some signs at present of depression in the business due to general economic depression in the Colony. The opening of the new road connexions now under construction will probably lead to extension in the traffic.

Mention was made in the Annual Report of last year of two important points affecting the economic condition of the population, to which prominent attention had been drawn in addresses to His Excellency. The question of giving relief from usurious loans was fully investigated during the year and an ordinance on the lines of the Indian Act was passed at the recent sessions of the Legislative Council with additional provision requiring the disclosure in the case of promissory notes of details of the consideration. The extent of borrowing on promissory notes is very great. Of late years some 13,000 to 15,000 forms have been sold in public offices each year. Apart from agreements to secure the Sugar Company's advances on low interest, the number of crop liens outstanding each year is probably 700 to 800 and in the area served by the Ba Mill where the practice is most common the amount secured on these was over £48,000, a good deal of this at high rates of interest. The new ordinance will enable the Courts to reopen the transaction and will incidentally facilitate steps to compound with creditors, as those endeavouring to effect this will no longer be bound by the terms of the deed. The question whether the crop liens ordinance does not give too great latitude for borrowing has still to be dealt with.

The possibility of introducing the co-operative system into the Colony was investigated by a Committee during the year and some proposals were drawn up including the skeleton framework of a possible ordinance more or less on the lines of the ordinances in force in Ceylon and other Colonies. It is clear that no great advance can be made in this direction until opportunity can be found for training some member of the official staff of the Colony in superintending the work. The Committee was convinced, however, that early steps should be taken towards the preliminary fostering of the co-operative movement and that this could suitably be done through the medium of the Agricultural Department and its dealings with groups of farmers. Group action would be fostered in this way, and later on definite co-operation could be introduced. The whole question is now under reference to the Secretary of State. There can be very little doubt that the fostering of co-operative principles, among the farming population especially, will have a very important effect on future developments. So far co-operation for public or private purposes has been more or less spasmodic. A reference to co-operation over the building of schools will be found in the educational section of this Report.

As to the question of leases and possible amendment of the terms of tenancy, the details of holdings given at the beginning of this section indicate how important this question is from the Indian point of view. Circumstances preclude the possibility of any but a small section of the Indian population becoming owners of land. The great majority must remain either tenants of native leases or of the Sugar Company. The terms of agreement for sugar growing are, on the whole, suitable to conditions, but with regard to leases

of native land there is general demand for a longer lease and it would appear that Fijian owners would be ready to respond to this. Further questions arise as to compensation for ejectment at the end of the tenancy and regulation of sub-letting apart from the general question of tenant right on freehold property. The whole matter is still under investigation and the Leases Board is engaged in framing proposals for the amendment of the Native Lease Regulations.

Social and Political.

As will be seen from the figures given elsewhere the number of marriages registered shows a decline to what may, perhaps, be considered a normal figure. With over 3,750 marriages registered in the last three years the change in legal status has been very considerable. The whole question of adapting the Marriage Law to Indian conditions here is now under consideration. The Muslim section is asking for the recognition of their own system of marriage, divorce, and inheritance, and with the Hindus difficulties over the interpretation of the personal law arise. There is also the question of the validity of old unregistered customary marriages in cases where wilful abstention from compliance with formalities cannot be proved.

The Indians Orphans Ordinance is now under amendment in the light of a recent judicial decision as to the prerogatives of the Supreme Court of the Colony in respect of guardianship of minors. Occasional cases still come to light of misuse of minor girls.

The questions of adapting the Intestacy Law to the circumstances of small Indian estates and providing greater facilities for the settlement of petty civil litigation are also under consideration.

The community still remains unrepresented in the Legislative Council. The advocates of the common roll have not yet disclosed their attitude towards the ensuing elections. There is a considerable body of feeling against the boycott of the Council, but it remains to be seen whether this will be strong enough to assert itself. Apart from this, as was reported last year, there are a number of Indian representatives on various local bodies, and as the result of discussions during the year of the question of bringing the community into more direct touch with the administration an Indian District Advisory Committee has been established recently in one district as an experiment. This development promises to have important results.

Sectional friction continued to affect some portions of the community though hardly so acutely as in the previous year. Controversy between the Sanatan Dharm Association and the Arya Samaj culminated in a set debate which degenerated into an unseemly wrangle over certain questions of morality which were resented by other Hindus here and led to criticisms in the public

Press in India. It is to be hoped that there will be no recrudescence of this form of controversy.

The boy scout and girl guide movement continues to progress and some of the troops and companies have reached a high standard. The movement shows signs of having important results on relations between the different communities among the younger generation. Cricket and football are played generally throughout the Colony, and the Suva teams display considerable keenness and proficiency. The Indian (Social) Reform League in Suva is prominent in these and other forms of social activity.

Apart from the *School Journal*, edited by the Inspector of Indian Schools, the circulation of which has now reached 600, the Anglo-Hindi papers published in Suva are the *Fiji Samachar* weekly by the Indian Publishing Company and the *Vriddhi* fortnightly by the Pacific Printery. Both contain Indian and local news and comments on public affairs.

Education.

A recent survey of educational progress by the Inspector of Indian schools gives some interesting information. Taking the population of school-going age (between the ages of 6 and 15) at 16,200, 43 per cent. of the Indian boys and 11 per cent. of the girls are at school. The district figures vary from over 50 per cent. for boys and 25 per cent. for girls in Suva and Lautoka, to less than half this figure in the case of boys and very small numbers in the case of girls in some districts. According to the figures existing facilities are not fully used in some cases.

Of the 68 schools 11 are managed by the Methodist Mission, 7 by the Roman Catholics, 2 by the Seventh Day Adventists, and 2 by the Anglicans whose Indian work is confined to Vanualevu. There are 7 Government schools, including three new ones, all well filled, and 3 managed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company. The Arya Samaj Society maintain two girls' and one boys' schools. The rest of the schools are of the rural type.

That there has been very considerable educational effort by Indians themselves is well brought out by a statement prepared by the Inspector showing that no less than £8,000 (including £2,000 for the somewhat ambitious Nadi school) has been raised by the Indian community during the past three years for school buildings, including the rebuilding of schools destroyed by the hurricane. The Missions have spent in the period some £6,000 mainly on big buildings, but the Indian effort has been widespread over a number of districts.

An analysis of Government expenditure of all sorts on Indian education shows a net expenditure of about £9,000 during the year under report including some £4,838 on grants to aided schools.

The secondary class for Indian pupils at the Government Teachers Training School continues to do good work and the pupils are making satisfactory progress. With its atmosphere of efficiency, energy, and close touch with practical affairs the institution should have a most important effect on the educational system of the Colony.

The Inspector's report reveals that in the case of the rural schools, co-operation over management and support lag seriously behind the co-operation shown in the founding of the schools. The rural school is the symbol both of progress and of corporate action and is important from both points of view.

Experiments are now being made over the application of the Indian Rating Ordinance which it is intended to administer with some degree of "local option." This would seem preferable to the imposition of an educational rate or cess for educational purposes on the population as a whole, but difficulties arise over the question of rate-aid to schools managed by Missions and sectional societies and it may be some little time before a satisfactory system of local rates supported by local interest is developed.

The year has been noticeable for considerable development in female education. As stated above, this has been marked in the Suva district where 28 per cent. of the girls are now attending school. Purdah prejudices are practically non-existent in this country, and as was pointed out last year development of female education may play a very important part in the general progress of the Indian community. Both for boys and girls the vital importance of a curriculum in close touch with every day affairs, and not solely devoted to literary subjects, will have constantly to be kept in view.

Emigration and Repatriation.

As was reported last year, owing to slack demand for repatriation it was decided not to charter a repatriation vessel during the year under report. This decision led to important developments which may result in the establishment of a direct service between India and Fiji on a commercial basis. The proprietors of the new repatriation vessel *Ganges* after some negotiations decided to send her on an experimental voyage from Calcutta to Suva and back, carrying passengers and cargo. It was arranged that applicants with rights to free return passages should be allowed berths as ordinary passengers for return to Calcutta, the Government paying for such passages as were taken up. The Company had hoped also to attract a number of emigrants to Fiji for the outward voyage. Unfortunately economic conditions in the Colony rendered it impossible to relax the present restrictions on immigration.

The *Ganges* arrived in Fiji on 3rd September, 1931, with a clean bill of health and 164 emigrants on board, including 92 former residents of Fiji, 13 married couples, and 35 holders of permits to obtain passports. Passengers and luggage were disembarked at the Nukulau Quarantine Station and landed finally in Suva after four or five days. They had been medically examined before embarkation in Calcutta and were vaccinated and inoculated against cholera during the voyage.

The vessel attracted a good deal of attention while she was in port as she is a new vessel built on up-to-date lines and with many modern improvements. She left port for Calcutta on 7th September. The weather proved very wet, but it was found possible to pass passengers through one of the Customs sheds to the vessel which was moored alongside the wharf. Both repatriates and paying passengers were medically examined before embarkation.

The total number of passengers embarked for Calcutta was 299, including 171 repatriates, 103 for Calcutta, and 68 for Madras. The bulk of the remaining passengers were Bombay traders and their families.

Repatriation arrangements had to be made at short notice and owing to the season not being favourable for the realization of assets, the proportion of repatriates belonging to the more depressed class of the population was larger than usual and the average savings taken showed a considerable reduction. The proportion of elderly men repatriated was noticeable.

Claims for free return passages had to be dealt with under the provisions of the new ordinance. This, though extending the limited rights of some classes of emigrants did not do so completely and children's claims had to be scrutinized in detail. In a few cases the claims proved inadmissible and a charge had to be made, but as the restriction was a new one some concession was made in one or two cases. The question of checking children's claims for free return passages has recently been investigated in some detail. The indexing of the registers of births and deaths in the Registrar-General's office has now reached a stage which makes it possible to check claims much more completely than formerly.

There has been a noticeable change in emigrant traffic to and from India. Arrivals have fallen from 1,013 to 281 and departures from 799 to 470. Actually, therefore, there has been a decrease in the population from these movements of about 200.

The restriction on the immigration of single males to those who have obtained permits from Fiji still continues and immigration from the Punjab has fallen off considerably. Discrimination between applications from Bombay traders presents difficulties as there is considerable traffic both ways and individual firms seek to recruit

for their business without reference to general conditions of employment. Some control and restriction seems needed in this case also. The class is enterprising and performs useful economic functions in the Colony, but it tends to monopolize certain classes of business such as tailoring, shoe-making, and laundry work to the exclusion of the Fiji-born Indians.

Of late a fair number of applications for permits for family emigration have been received. Strictly speaking, permits are not required in such cases, but they are being issued in order to obviate difficulties that may arise in India.

A second voyage of the *Ganges* direct from and to Calcutta has been arranged for April-May next, and last year's arrangements for repatriation will be repeated. Demand continues slack and very few applications have been received so far.

Storms and Floods.

The storms and floods of the early part of the year resulted in serious loss of life in the Ba valley and on the north-east of the Lautoka flats. Over 150 were drowned, swept away in the middle of the night by floods of unprecedented height. The disaster was so complete that whole families were drowned without a survivor. Much damage was done to cane in these two areas. Fortunately in the Rewa area the previous floods had given warning and numbers sought refuge early. Though rescue work was hampered by some clinging to their homes and possessions too long and proved difficult and arduous in isolated tracts at the mouth of the river, the spirit displayed by rescuers and those who succoured the refugees was most commendable. Up river a number of Indians owe their lives to Fijian rescue parties. Large numbers of refugees lower down were transported to Suva and clothed and fed by the Government, by various associations, and by private persons. The Arya Samaj Society was particularly active. The Society organized regular lorry transport and took in some hundreds in their girls' school at Samabula where they were fed from the school kitchens and those of the Sikh Gurdwara next door. Subscriptions for the relief of the distressed were raised and an appeal for clothing for those on the west coast who had lost all their possessions met with a ready response. Recovery was rapid in most cases. Conditions of climate and soil make it possible to grow catch crops at any time of the year, and with a large proportion of the flooded area under cane, the Sugar Company made itself responsible for keeping its farmers going. With the floods affecting all the big river valleys of Vitilevu, the rush to secure high ground for homesteads has been extensive. The small Indian farmer with his light homestead and possessions and his store of food in the shape of sacks of paddy is in some respects less vulnerable than his Fijian neighbour, with his heavy "bure" and his food plantations often concentrated on sloping ground on the edge of a stream.

CHAPTER XVI.

LEGISLATION.

During 1931 forty Ordinances were passed of which the following are the principal:—

The Public Holidays Ordinance.—This Ordinance provides for the celebration of the birthday of the Sovereign on the actual anniversary instead of on the succeeding Monday, as was the previous practice. It also empowers the Governor to appoint as a holiday either the Monday preceding or the Monday following the tenth day of October, and either the Monday preceding or the Monday following the anniversary of the birthday of the Heir to the Throne. The distinction in the repealed Ordinance between a public and a bank holiday is not retained in this Ordinance, as in practice no such distinction was ever drawn.

The Immigrants (Amendment) Ordinance.—It was considered to be desirable to check the entry of persons who, in the opinion of a visiting officer, were likely to become chargeable to the Colony. This purpose is effected by empowering a visiting officer to demand a deposit not exceeding fifty pounds as a condition of such persons' landing in the Colony. The object of the deposit is to enable a "destitute immigrant" to be returned to his original country without financial loss to the Government. Two years is thought to be a sufficient period in which to retain the deposit.

The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance.—This Ordinance amends the Customs Ordinance, 1881, so as to cause the local law to conform to Imperial policy in regard to territorial waters and the three-mile limit.

The Customs Duties (Amendment) Ordinance.—In this Ordinance provision is made for the grant of preferential tariff rates to those countries forming part of the British Empire which afford favourable treatment to Fiji produce.

The Widows' and Orphans' Pension (Additional Contributors) Ordinance.—When the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Ordinance, 1914, was passed, officers already in the service of the Colony were given the option as to whether or not they should contribute to the fund. An opportunity was provided by the Widows' and Orphans' (Amendment) Ordinance, 1925, for those officers who had elected in 1914 not to contribute to reconsider their decisions. There are still a few officers who are desirous of contributing to the fund, although they omitted to do so in 1914 or 1925. This Ordinance empowers the Governor to grant special permission to any such officer conditional upon his paying arrears of contributions from 1st January, 1926, plus 4 per cent. compound interest.

The Supreme Court (Amendment) Ordinance.—It was represented to the Government that owing to the limited wording of section 18 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1875, solicitors in Scotland have not received the same privileges as regards

eligibility for call to the Fiji Bar as solicitors in England. This Ordinance brings the Fiji law in this respect into conformity with that of other Colonies. Opportunity has also been taken to remove certain archaisms from the section. This Ordinance also enables the Supreme Court to sit at Lautoka for the hearing of civil cases. It is considered to be for the general convenience that suitable civil business should, if necessary, be disposed of at Lautoka during the periodical visits of the Circuit Court.

The Cinematograph (Amendment) Ordinance.—Provision is made in this Ordinance for the appointment by the Governor of not less than three persons as Censors. Section three of the Ordinance makes it an offence for any person to exhibit any film or any poster or handbill advertising any cinematographic exhibition which has not been approved by the Censors.

The Sedition Ordinance.—The Government considered that the time had arrived when it was essential to control seditious activities and the circulation of seditious publications and newspapers. The Ordinance accordingly provides for the punishment of seditious acts, the suppression of seditious publications, and the suspension of newspapers containing seditious matter.

The Advertisement Regulation Ordinance.—In order to prevent disfigurement of the landscape, it was felt that some control should be exercised over the exhibition of advertisements in the Colony. This Ordinance empowers the Governor in Council, or in the municipalities the respective Councils thereof, to make regulations for that purpose. The exhibition of liquor advertisements in public vehicles is, in the opinion of the Government, undesirable and is prohibited.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance.—This Ordinance applies to the Colony, in accordance with the Treaty of Versailles, the following International Conventions, viz., the Convention fixing Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Industrial Employment, the Convention concerning the Night Work of Young Persons Employed in Industry, the Convention concerning the Night Work of Women Employed in Industry, and the Convention fixing the Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Employment at Sea.

PARTICULARS OF FACTORY LEGISLATION, COMPENSATION FOR ACCIDENTS LEGISLATION, AND LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS FOR SICKNESS, OLD AGE, ETC.

The only legislation on any of the above subjects is the Steam Boilers Ordinance, 1915, which provides for compensation for accidents caused to persons in connexion with steam boilers. A Committee of the Executive Council, however, have at present under consideration the question of the introduction of legislation to provide for workmen's compensation generally and also for sickness insurance.

CHAPTER XVII.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The progress of the Colony in the realm of finance is shown by the following figures :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Assets.</i>	<i>Liabilities.</i>	<i>Excess of Liabilities over Assets.</i>	<i>Excess of Assets over Liabilities.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1926 ...	584,515	536,079	750,010	785,027	35,017	—
1927 ...	586,574	534,939	898,491	881,752	—	16,739
1928 ...	709,534	567,845	597,903	439,475	—	158,428
1929 ...	677,945	642,124	557,043	362,794	—	194,249
1930 ...	638,763	645,291	408,971	221,250	—	187,721
1931 ...	565,393	605,973	452,080	304,940	—	147,140

At the close of the year 1922 the Colony had an accumulated deficit on Revenue Account of £243,481, and at the close of 1929 there was an accumulated surplus of £194,249. This surplus was reduced in 1930 to £187,721 and further reduced to £147,140 at the end of 1931. These figures are, however, exclusive of the Immigration Fund, which at the end of the year 1922 stood at £74,282, and at the end of the year under review at £105,247, an increase in nine years of £30,965. This Fund is earmarked for a specific purpose and the item is shown in the balance sheet both as an asset and a liability. A further item in the balance sheet is the Emergency Reserve Fund, which amounted to £30,257 at the end of 1931, a decrease in four years of £2,743.

During the year 1931 a Government Vessels Replacement Fund was opened and amounted to £1,554 at the close of the year.

The revenue for 1931 was the lowest for the past six years. In addition to the hurricane and severe floods in February, the Colony has continued to feel the effects of the world-wide trade depression, and for the second time since 1922 there was a deficit on Revenue Account, amounting to approximately £40,580, with a consequent reduction in the excess of assets over liabilities.

Debt.

The position of the Loan Debt of the Colony on 31st December, 1931, was as under :—

	£
Specific Loan (Ordinance No. 7 of 1928) ...	765,000
Public Purposes Loan (Ordinance No. 2 of 1929) ...	171,408
	<hr/>
Total	936,408
	<hr/>

The loan of £765,000 was raised in London during the year 1928, the stock bearing interest at 5 per cent. and being issued at 101.

A further loan sufficient to produce £170,000 was authorized in 1929. It was arranged that it should be in the form of a direct loan to be provided by the Crown Agents for the Colonies. During that year £80,204 was made available for public purposes and the balance was provided in 1930. This loan bears interest at 5 per cent.

The Sinking Fund in connexion with the Specific Loan amounted to £14,974 at the close of the year. A Supplementary Sinking Fund for the redemption of any other loans raised now amounts to £13,109. Provision for sinking fund contributions in respect of the Public Purposes Loan will first be made in 1932.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year amounted to £565,393, a decrease of £73,370 as compared with 1930. The main items of revenue grouped under their various heads are as follows:—

	£
Customs	275,587
Port, wharfage, and light dues	18,284
Native taxes	11,384
Licences, excise and internal revenue not otherwise classified	78,309
Fees of Court or Office, payments for specific purposes and reimbursements in aid ...	93,956
Post Office	27,899
Rent of Government property	12,805
Interest	37,167
Miscellaneous	9,998
Land sales and premia on leases	4

The amounts collected for licences, stamp duties and income-tax were £20,304, £4,587, and £16,776, respectively.

The amount collected under the Residential Tax Ordinance was £20,576. The rate is £1 per annum on all males between the ages of 18 and 60, with certain exemptions. All persons liable for the tax are required to register themselves and the tax must be paid to the Colonial Treasurer or a Sub-Accountant by June of each year. Penalties are imposed for failure to register and for non-payment of the tax.

Customs Tariff.

The Customs Tariff is, in general, on an *ad valorem* basis, duty being assessed on the value of goods at the port of shipment. Practically all products of the British Empire receive preferential treatment, provided that British Empire material and labour represent not less than 25 per cent. of the value of the goods, and that the final processes of manufacture are performed within the Empire.

On most articles the British preferential rate is 20 per cent., and the general rate 35 per cent. *ad valorem*. On imports on which a specific rate of duty is levied the general rate is usually 50 per cent. higher than the preferential rate, the principal exceptions being illuminating kerosene, power kerosene, benzine, on which duties of 9d., 1s. 3d., and 5d. per gallon are levied irrespective of country of origin. There is a special concession given in respect of specified imports from certain scheduled countries which grant favourable treatment to Fiji produce. The countries at present scheduled are:—the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Hong Kong.

The following imports, the produce of scheduled countries, are chargeable with 10 per cent. less duty than is paid under the British preferential rate:—Biscuits, bran, cheese, fish, flax and hemp, fruit (dried and fresh), golden syrup and treacle, grease, tallow and fat, hay and chaff, earthenware pipes, fancy soap, fresh vegetables. Ale and beer receive a preference of 1s. per gallon, confectionery 1½d. per lb., and soap, plain, ½d. per lb.

The following articles are free of duty under the British preferential rate:—aircraft and accessories, appliances to correct a deformity of the human body, certain specified educational material, articles imported for Boy Scout and Girl Guide Associations, bags and sacks over two bushels, butter boxes, cans partly made for use as containers of Fiji produce, sail canvas not less than British standard No. 6 in weight, casks for use as containers of Fiji produce, coal and coke, furniture imported for churches, approved infants' foods, insecticides for agricultural uses, muntz metal and copper sheathing, oakum, sulphur, tar and bitumen, tin plate, approved weed killers, galvanized wire netting not less than 4-inch mesh, galvanized plain wire not less than No. 10 British gauge, galvanized barbed wire and staples not less than No. 14 British gauge, fencing posts, gates, standards and droppers for fencing, other than ornamental iron or steel. The general rate on the above articles is 15 per cent.

The following articles are admitted free of duty from all countries:—animals and birds, bacteriological products, ships' ballast, books, periodicals and music printed, cinematograph cameras and films for cinematographs, coco-nuts, collections of antiques for public institutions, natural history specimens, containers used in the export of products of the Colony, copra, gas

and ammonia cylinders, manures, crude and diesel oil, plants and seeds, used and unused postage stamps, and vessels being yachts the property of tourists visiting the Colony.

Machinery imported pays the following rates of duty :—agricultural implements, butter making and milking machines pay 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, if of British manufacture, and 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, if of foreign manufacture. Agricultural machines, fruit and meat canning machinery, steam boilers, oil engines, timber milling and sawing machinery and electrical machinery, pay the British preferential rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, and the general rate of 30 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The following are the principal articles that are admitted at specific rates of duty :—ale and beer in bottle 5s. a gallon British preferential rate, and 6s. a gallon general rate; confectionery 4½d. a lb., plus 10 per cent. and 6d. a lb., plus 25 per cent.; plain soap 1½d. a lb., and 2d. a lb.; tobacco, manufactured, 7s. and 10s. 6d. a lb.; cigars 9s. and 13s. 6d. a lb.; cigarettes 8s. and 12s. a lb.; timber, rough, 2s. and 3s. per 100 superficial feet; timber, dressed, 2s. 6d. and 3s. 9d. per 100 superficial feet; spirits 26s. and 39s. a gallon; wines, still, 4s. and 6s. a gallon; wines, sparkling, 10s. and 15s. a gallon.

The following articles pay 30 per cent. British preferential and 40 per cent. *ad valorem* general rates of duty :—bacon and hams, biscuits, bran, cheese, fish, flax and hemp, dried fruit, golden syrup and treacle, hay and chaff, lard and dripping, and fancy soap.

CHAPTER XVIII.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Meteorological observations were carried out during the year in the same manner as in 1930, the observations being taken twice daily for each day of the year, including week-ends and holidays. There has been no alteration or addition to the staff or in the method of observations. A hair hygograph was purchased and will be brought into use in 1932.

The table below gives a concise summary of observations for the year :—

Descriptive Monthly Weather Summary.

January.—A normal month.

February.—A very unsettled month. Between 18th and 23rd a hurricane occurred which took a somewhat unusual course and was responsible for considerable damage to property and loss of life, especially on the north and north-west part of Vitilevu. The storm was centred between Samoa and Fiji on the 16th, moving slowly south-west. It passed not far to the north of Labasa at about 2 a.m., on the 18th, and reached Naviti Island, Yasawa, on the 21st, in which vicinity it remained until the afternoon of the 23rd. The storm then began to move away from the group to the north. The township of Lautoka was practically demolished by the wind, while other centres suffered severely by unprecedented floods, which occurred on all main rivers in Vitilevu, except the Navua. About 200 lives were lost. It may be of interest to mention that on the 22nd, when the barometer at Lautoka commenced to rise and the wind, which had reached hurricane force, decreased, there was no change in the wind direction—as is usual with cyclonic storms. The maximum wind velocity recorded at Suva by Dines' pressure tube anemometer was 56 m.p.h. from E x N at 19h. 25m. on the 21st.

March.—A wet month. A hurricane passed through the group between the 1st and 3rd, doing comparatively little damage. The centre passed near Penang, the west side of Levuka and through Southern Lau towards Tonga. This is believed to be the same storm that occurred in February. The maximum wind velocity recorded in Suva was 52 m.p.h. from E.S.E. at 2h. 30m. on the 2nd.

April.—The beginning and end of the month were rather wet, the middle being dry. A depression developed between Fiji and Samoa on the 5th, passing near Suva on the 7th in the form of a very small cyclone. The wind reached force 7 and is reported to have reached force 8 at various places in the group, especially Kadavu. Several banana vessels were unable to reach Suva with fruit from Kadavu in time to catch the *Tofua*.

May.—The first eight days were dry, the rest of the month being moderately wet. The trade winds blew for the greater part of the month and were quite boisterous on the 23rd and 24th.

June.—A fairly dry month. Light to gentle winds prevailed generally, except from the 7th to the 9th, when fresh trades blew. The dense fog which occurred on the morning of the 14th is very unusual for Suva.

July.—The first three days were exceptionally wet, 7.12 inches of rain being recorded out of a total of 8.70 inches. The remainder of the month was fairly dry.

August.—The first half of the month was fairly wet, the second half very dry. Heavy rain fell on the 5th. The Master of the M.V. *Sir John Forrest* reported having experienced a whirlwind at Nabouwalu, Bua, on the 6th at about 2.30 a.m., lasting about 10 minutes. The vessel was blown ashore and sustained minor damage. The wind force is estimated at force 11. Mr. L. N. Anderson, of Lekutu, reported a similar occurrence at about the same time.

September.—A normal month generally, heavy rain fell on the 6th, the rest of the month being fairly dry and cloudy. Three successive waterspouts were observed to the north-east of Suva between 11h. 10m. and 11h. 42m. on the 11th.

October.—Very heavy rain fell on the 21st. Out of a total of 3.37 inches for the day, 2.72 inches fell in one hour between 18h. 30m. and 19h. 30m.

November.—A month of thunderstorms, a severe one occurring on the 20th accompanied by heavy rain and squally winds. 1.26 inches of rain fell in 22 minutes. During the storm a horse was struck and killed by lightning on the wharf reclamation. A resident of Namoli reported a severe thunderstorm on the 20th, accompanied by torrential rain and hail. The latter phenomenon is rather unusual for Fiji.

December.—The first half of the month was wet and fairly cool, the latter being hot and dry. The average daily sunshine between the 17th and the 31st amounted to 10.5 hours.

Rainfall.

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 122.60 inches, being 5.08 inches above normal, the average annual rainfall being 117.52 inches. Rain fell on 250 days, the greatest amount being 6.56 inches on the 21st February.

96.69 inches of rain fell at Nadarivatu in February, the heaviest daily falls being as follows :—17th, 1.66 inches; 18th, 5.94 inches; 19th, 8.55 inches; 20th, 11.65 inches; 21st, 20.40 inches; 22nd, 24.20 inches; 23rd, 2.92 inches; 24th, 4.50 inches; 25th, 11.70 inches. The total for the year was 267.57 inches, being 101 per cent. above normal.

The tables below give the annual rainfall for the year at various stations in the group, together with the annual average rainfall over a period of years. It will be seen that the figures vary considerably. About half the stations in each of the wet and dry districts show a deficiency and the other half in both districts show an excess of rainfall. There are few extremes.

Rainfall, 1931—Dry Districts.

<i>No. of years.</i>	<i>Station.</i>	<i>Province.</i>	<i>Average Annual Rainfall.</i>	<i>Rainfall, 1931.</i>
12	Delanasau ...	Bua ...	83·76	64·18
10	Katafaga ...	Lau ...	62·48	53·27
37	Labasa ...	Macuata ...	80·26	63·97
6	Lakeba ...	Lau ...	78·42	76·05
31	Lautoka ...	Ba ...	67·91	81·09
25	Lawaqa ...	Nadroga ...	68·09	64·59
18	Makogai ...	Lomaiviti ...	73·36	90·92
36	Munia ...	Lau ...	68·94	61·93
2	Nailaga ...	Ba ...	55·10	72·46
12	Naitauba ...	Lau ...	75·69	71·51
30	Navo ...	Ba ...	63·46	45·48
4	Ngau ...	Lomaiviti ...	76·19	84·51
47	Penang ...	Ra ...	81·83	103·07
37	Rarawai ...	Ba ...	80·34	68·83
17	Richmond ...	Kadavu ...	66·21	55·53
5	Sigatoka Cotton Station.	Nadroga ...	63·87	59·62
2	Vaileka ...	Ra ...	71·41	99·01
5	Vunilagi ...	Cakaudrove ...	71·06	84·97
1	Vunisea ...	Kadavu ...	—	80·61

Rainfall, 1931—Wet Districts.

17	Deloi ...	Cakaudrove ...	92·83	104·50
4	Devo ...	Cakaudrove ...	94·66	105·19
7	Korovou ...	Tailevu ...	142·43	138·42
37	Levuka ...	Lomaiviti ...	89·56	88·04
12	Mua ...	Cakaudrove ...	106·61	109·43
14	Nabouwalu ...	Bua ...	103·03	108·77
31	Nadarivatu ...	Colo North ...	132·52	267·57
15	Naitonitoni ...	Serua ...	125·32	110·72
1	Nasinu ...	Rewa ...	—	135·59
37	Nausori ...	Tailevu ...	114·34	122·03
27	Rabi ...	Cakaudrove ...	137·52	104·38
27	Rotuma ...	Rotuma ...	138·94	115·14
16	Salialevu ...	Cakaudrove ...	208·47	194·24
47	Suva ...	Rewa ...	117·51	122·60
1	Tamanua ...	Serua ...	—	128·25
25	Valeci ...	Cakaudrove ...	102·48	90·83
12	Vuna ...	Cakaudrove ...	118·41	127·48
19	Vunidawa ...	Colo East ...	141·73	177·25
52	Wainunu ...	Bua ...	147·14	128·50
25	Waiyevo ...	Cakaudrove ...	96·59	113·13

A few rain gauges were damaged or washed away during the February floods and the figures given by the observers are estimates only.

Wireless and Weather.

Hitherto no mention has been made of the wireless weather reporting scheme. This scheme was brought into operation in October, 1923, starting with nine stations. Weather reports taken at 2030 and 0330 G.M.T. civil are broadcast by Apia and Suva

at fixed times during the hurricane season, whilst the same procedure is followed in the non-hurricane season, except that the 2030 report is omitted.

Weather reports are also received from ships within wireless range and any report of special interest is re-broadcast if received within time.

Storm warnings are also broadcast when necessary, giving the approximate position of its centre and the direction in which it is moving. All weather reports received both from ships and stations are entered in the register and filed for reference. At the present time there are 26 stations in the scheme, but there is one, namely, Vaitupu, that cannot actually be classed thus, as its weather reports are broadcast by a private wireless set. These reports are picked up in Suva by a local amateur.

It will therefore be seen that the South Western Pacific is fairly well served with meteorological information, but there is still room for much improvement. The establishment of wireless weather-reporting stations at Rotuma and Wallis Island would be a welcome improvement and would simplify forecasting considerably. This would be of special benefit to Fiji, as hurricanes likely to affect these islands very often affect Rotuma or Wallis Island first, and regular meteorological information by wireless would give Fiji at least two days' warning of an approaching hurricane.

CHAPTER XIX.

GENERAL.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir A. G. Murchison Fletcher, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., left Suva on 23rd June, 1931, in H.M.S. *Laburnum* on a tour of certain of the islands which are under his jurisdiction as High Commissioner for the Western Pacific. In the course of his tour His Excellency visited the British Solomon Islands, the New Hebrides, Ocean Island, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. His Excellency returned to the Colony on 26th August, 1931, after an absence of a little over two months.

During his absence, the Honourable A. W. Seymour, V.D., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government of the Colony as Governor's Deputy.

During the month of August, 1931, Suva was visited by H.M.S. *Diomedé*, H.M.S. *Veronica*, and H.M.S. *Laburnum* of the New Zealand Squadron of the British Navy, and in September, 1931, by H.M.A.S. *Canberra* of the Australian Squadron.

Three sessions of the Legislative Council were held during 1931, in February, June, and October. Among the more important matters dealt with by the Council were the following:—

(a) Approval was given to the amendment of the Customs Tariff, whereby certain countries which give favourable treatment to Fiji produce were accorded special low Customs rates in respect of specified articles. The countries at present

scheduled to receive this special preferential treatment are the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Hong Kong.

(b) At the June session an ordinance was passed giving the Government wide powers to control seditious publications, including the power to suspend the publication of a newspaper adjudged to have published seditious matter.

(c) At the October session of the Council approval was given to the Estimates for 1932. As finally passed the budget showed an estimated revenue of £544,878 and an approved expenditure of £544,689, giving a surplus of £189. The expenditure has been reduced to a figure £77,852 below the approved expenditure for 1931, and £104,644 below that of 1930.

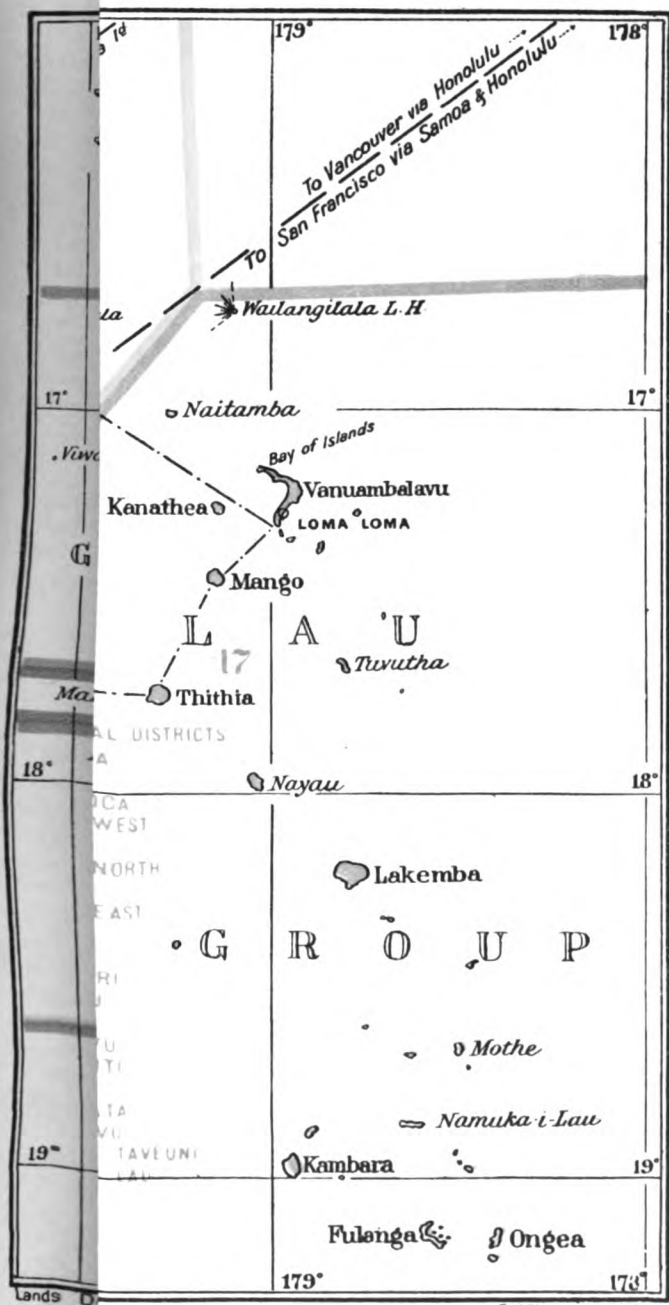
(d) A motion for the reduction of the salaries of the Civil Servants of the Colony was introduced at the October session, and was supported by all the European Elected Members, but was defeated by the votes of the official majority and of the Fijian Nominated Members. At the request of the European Elected Members, the matter was submitted to the Secretary of State for decision. The Secretary of State decided that the salaries should not be reduced, but that the question should, however, be reconsidered when the revenue figures for the first six months of 1932 become available.

An outstanding event of the year was the hurricane which occurred at the end of February. Many cyclonic storms of greater severity have been experienced in the history of the Colony, but on this occasion the centre of the cyclone hovered for such an abnormally lengthy period close to the north of the group that the resulting continuous heavy rains produced the most disastrous and extensive floods ever recorded in Fiji. Very great damage was caused to buildings, tramways, bridges, roads, and crops, and approximately 200 persons were killed, including four Europeans. The majority of these deaths were due to drowning.

There have been no serious epidemics during the year. During the first half of the year there was a slight epidemic of Shiga dysentery, and a mild epidemic of influenza during the latter half of the year.

There has been a general tendency towards decreases in declared values of imported articles, but this has been counteracted in the case of imports from the United Kingdom and other countries by the adverse rate of exchange. Importers from Australia on the other hand have had the advantage of a depreciated currency, and this is reflected by an increased percentage of imports in 1931 as compared with 1930.

As will be seen from the returns, only 11.59 per cent. of imports were bought outside the Empire, and there is an increasing tendency to buy in the United Kingdom, and other parts of the Empire. This tendency is being strengthened since the United Kingdom went off the gold standard.



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

GRENADA, 1931

(For Reports for 1929 and 1930 see Nos. 1511 and 1541
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America, with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad and between the parallels of 12° 30' and 11° 58' North latitude and 61° 20' and 61° 35' West longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area is about 120 square miles, but, including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coastline is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, land-locked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forests to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island 1,740 feet above sea-level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.

The climate from December to the end of April, when the heat is tempered by the prevailing trade winds, may be described as good. In the autumn, from July to the end of October, there is greater humidity and higher temperature with little variation between night and day. During this period the climate, although not really unhealthy, may be described as debilitating to Europeans. Even during the hot season, except in the towns themselves which are all near the sea, conditions are not unpleasant. Now that electric power is available in St. George's, fans are gradually being introduced into houses and offices. The highest temperature in 1931 was 2° on 13th April, and the lowest 70° on several days. The mean of maximum temperatures was 90° and the mean of minimum 71°. The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches. In the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1931 was 107·12 inches.

Over the past 30 years the average at St. George's has been 126·67 inches.

History.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus on 15th August, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years, it was annexed to France in 1674. In 1763 the island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, but was recaptured by the French in 1779 and held by them for the next four years. In 1783, by the Treaty of Versailles, Grenada and the Grenadines were finally restored to Great Britain.

In 1795-96, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 48 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

Grenada forms, with St. Vincent and St. Lucia to the north, the group known as the Windward Islands, under a Governor who resides, for the most part, in Grenada.

Since 1877 the Government has been assisted by two Councils styled the Executive and Legislative Councils. The former consists of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer, *ex officio*, and such other persons as may be nominated by the Crown. The period of appointment of Unofficial Members is six years. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of certain officials and of a wholly nominated unofficial element, the Governor (or Officer Administering the Government) being President with an original and a casting vote.

By an Imperial Order in Council dated 21st March, 1924 (which came into effect by Proclamation on 1st December, 1924), the official element was increased to eight and the unofficial fixed at three Nominated and five Elected Members. The duration of the Council is three years.

The present Official Members are the Governor (President with an original and a casting vote) the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, *ex officio*, the Chief Medical and Health Officer, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Director of Education, and the Commissioner of Carriacou.

Municipal affairs are in the hands of a District Board in each parish, composed of an equal number of Nominated and Elected Members. The numbers vary between 8 and 14 according to the importance of the parishes.

In the island of Carriacou the affairs of the town of Hillsborough are managed by Town Wardens appointed by the Governor.

Other bodies assisting in the local government are the Central Water Authority, the Sanitary Authority, the Board of Secondary Education, the Board of Primary Education, and the Forestry Board.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Grenada were Caribs, but that race is now quite extinct. The native population is composed mainly of negroes of African descent. The population, according to the census of 1921 was composed of :—

Black	...	...	...	...	51,032
Mixed	...	...	...	...	11,673
Oriental	...	...	...	...	2,692
White	...	...	...	...	905
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	66,302
					<hr/>

of whom 37,455 were females and 28,847 males.

The population of St. George's the capital at that date was 4,629.

No census was taken in 1931, owing to financial circumstances, but the population at 31st December, 1931, was estimated at 78,662. The estimated totals at the end of the preceding 5 years were :—

1926	...	...	...	...	71,621
1927	...	...	...	...	73,319
1928	...	...	...	...	75,214
1929	...	...	...	...	75,867
1930	...	...	...	...	76,967

The following table indicates the birth- and death-rates per 1,000 during the past decade :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Death-rate.</i>
1922	...	...	...	...	29·50	18·8
1923	...	...	...	...	38·58	16·6
1924	...	...	...	...	31·86	16·8
1925	...	...	...	...	33·54	16·5
1926	...	...	...	...	33·53	20·3
1927	...	...	...	...	31·29	15·6
1928	...	...	...	...	33·33	16·5
1929	...	...	...	...	32·24	16·8
1930	...	...	...	...	32·63	15·8
1931	...	...	...	...	30·24	17·2
Averages	...	...	...	...	32·67	17·09

The death-rate per 1,000 births of infants dying under one year in 1931 was 129, as compared with 119 in 1930.

Marriages registered during the year totalled 223, being 122 less than in the preceding year. The rate for the year was 2·0 per 1,000 persons living. The numbers and rates for the preceding five years were as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Number.</i>	<i>Rate per</i> <i>1,000.</i>
1926	...	...	...	...	335	4·6
1927	...	...	...	...	350	4·7
1928	...	...	...	...	381	5·0
1929	...	...	...	...	351	4·6
1930	...	...	...	...	345	4·4

The arrivals during the year were 3,831 and the departures 3,160 as against 4,859 and 5,051, respectively, in 1930.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Main Diseases and Mortality.

Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis) form the largest single disease group. From the departmental returns for 1931, covering a total incidence of 35,034 cases of general systemic and preventable diseases, the following percentage analysis shows the group incidence, and the percentage analysis of a total deaths' incidence—of 1,355—is also given :—

	<i>Total Incidence. percentage.</i>	<i>Total Deaths. percentage.</i>
Preventable diseases (including pneumonia and tuberculosis).	41·2	23·1
Skin and connective tissue diseases	18·36	0·88
General diseases and injuries ...	14·33	31·21
Genito-urinary diseases (non-venereal).	9·14	5·02
Diarrhoea and enteritis	6·65	17·9
Nervous diseases	3·06	4·87
Circulatory diseases	2·68	11·43
Digestive diseases	2·54	2·2
Respiratory diseases	2·04	3·39

On an analysis of infective diseases and their mortality, on a percentage basis of 12,430 cases reported with 313 deaths, these were grouped as follows :—

	<i>Total Incidence. percentage.</i>	<i>Total Deaths. percentage.</i>
Malaria	57·08	26·21
Influenza	22·02	6·17
Yaws	13·32	nil.
Gonorrhoea	3·9	0·32
Syphilis	1·42	19·49
		(41 per cent. congenital.)
Pneumonia	1·03	19·49
Enteric fever	0·5	4·5
Tuberculosis	0·35	18·02
Dysentery	0·24	1·3
Other diseases	0·14	4·5

The above returns point to a slight increase in most groups as compared to those of the previous year, in which it is evident that the effect of depressed financial conditions is beginning to make itself felt ; though an epidemic of influenzal catarrh in the beginning

of the year was primarily responsible for the elevation in the sickness and death-rates—being accompanied with a large number of fatal cases of pneumonia. Apart from this epidemic, which prevailed during the first quarter of the year, there was no outbreak of epidemic disease throughout the year.

During the first five months of the year there was a period of drought—only 11.71 inches of rain being recorded, while in March there was only a fall of 0.74 inches. This was succeeded by a wet June and July, when 31 inches of rain fell, and was accompanied by an unprecedented (in recent years) activity of insect life: flies swarming all over the Colony and in Carriacou; mosquitoes—principally of the “bush” type—invading towns and villages. The result of the fly invasion was seen in an increased number of cases of gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea, and there was also a high mortality among infants and children, but the number of deaths was less—by 34—than 1930. Cases of enteric fever, although entirely sporadic, also showed an increase, there being 61 cases notified compared with 43 cases in 1930. Two infected persons also came from Trinidad and were admitted to hospital here in the acute stage of the disease.

Dysentery cases also increased in number, there being 30 cases, while there were 16 cases notified during 1930.

The position as to malaria fever continues to improve, and we are deeply indebted to the Rockefeller Foundation, not only for practical assistance in sending their expert malariologist, Dr. W. C. Earle, M.D., who is in charge of the Foundation's Bureau of Malaria Control at Porto Rico, to advise and direct our anti-malaria campaign once a year, and for laboratory and field material supplies, but especially for their undertaking to provide financial assistance for the ensuing year.

The incidence of cases of malaria continues to fall. The returns for 1931 show a reduction of 7 per cent. on those for 1930, and of 16.5 per cent on the 1929 returns—the year in which this campaign was inaugurated.

The field work has been prosecuted continuously, and the results of treatment of anopheline breeding places with Paris Green has proved very effective. On the advice of Dr. Earle no large expenditure was incurred, beyond the cost of surveying swamps, etc., until extensive operations in taking levels, experimenting on water courses, and more thorough investigation of anopheline breeding in the drainage areas have been accomplished.

There were 82 deaths reported as due to malaria during 1931, compared with 76 during 1930.

The incidence of venereal diseases is slightly lower than that of 1930. In the Police Force, where instructed and supervised prophylaxis has been instituted, the decrease in cases has been remarkable.

The number of yaws cases—1,665—dealt with during the year was greater by 322 than that of 1930, there being 1,343 cases under treatment during the latter year.

This was not due to increased incidence so much as to the activity of Sanitary Inspectors in compelling patients suffering from the disease to attend the treatment centres.

No other disease occurring during the year calls for special comment.

The vast majority of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits, either on cocoa and nutmeg estates, or on small holdings and garden lots where corn, fruit, ground provisions, and other vegetables are cultivated; cotton is also extensively grown in Carriacou and Petite Martinique. There is an appreciable fishing industry, and sailing vessels and boats are constructed principally in the two island dependencies of Grenada just mentioned. Modern industrial undertakings are not found, and no disease occurring can be classified as occupational. Soil pollution, apart from anopheline mosquitoes, is responsible for the greater part of disease incidence here.

Provisions for Treatment.

(a) Medical and Health Staff.

The staff of the Medical and Sanitary Department includes a Chief Medical and Health Officer; Resident Surgeon, Colony Hospital; eight District Medical Officers; and Medical Officer, Malaria Campaign. The nursing staff distributed through the Medical Institutions and District Medical Stations consists of one European Matron (Colony Hospital) and fifty nurses; there are also nine male and seven female attendants at the Mental Hospital. Hospitals and Dispensaries have four stewards, and there are six dispensers. The Sanitary Department is staffed by a Chief Sanitary Inspector and seven District Sanitary Inspectors. The usual minor staff of male nursing orderlies, messengers, porters, etc., is provided for. There is a well-equipped small bacteriological laboratory, but funds have not been adequate to provide a trained technical assistant for this valuable adjunct of the Department.

(b) Hospitals and Dispensaries, etc.

There is a well-equipped Colony Hospital (151 beds), at St. George's, which deals with the major part of the medical and surgical cases of the Colony, and two smaller District Hospitals—one in the thickly populated parish of St. Andrew's (23 beds), and one in the island of Carriacou (30 beds). A hospital for consumptives has 20 beds, and there is provision for 20 lepers, 10 female and 10 male, at a Leper Settlement. The Mental Hospital has accommodation for 118 lunatics, and the Poor Asylum for 58 inmates. There are seven Dispensaries, and fifteen Medical Visiting Stations, each with a resident nurse-midwife, and in each of which is a room with couch for emergency cases.

The Colony Hospital and the two District Hospitals dealt with 2,402 cases during 1931; this total includes 934 cases in the maternity section, including 487 pregnancies and 397 births, the balance being cases of premature birth and abortion, of which latter there were 10.

The Medical Visiting Stations established in 1926, have provided an invaluable aid to the District Medical Service, especially in the field of maternity and child-welfare; during 1931, the District Nurses attended 613 confinements and 971 cases of infants.

A new children's ward was presented to the Colony Hospital during the year—the generous gift of Mr. H. F. Pantin and his mother as a memorial to his uncle, the late Mr. E. Norton.

A dental clinic, with the aid of a grant from the Colonial Development Fund, was established in November, 1931 at the Colony Hospital, principally for the treatment of primary school children and paupers.

Preventive Measures.

The Sanitary Department, first established in 1926, has during the past five years, reformed public health procedure in Grenada, and in this much help has been received in improved water-supplies, drainage, and provision of latrines, etc.

Anti-mosquito work has been a principal concern, and the reduction in the incidence of aedes (*stegomyia*) in St. George's is in remarkable contrast to the conditions found by the late Sir Andrew Balfour, who in his *War against Tropical Disease* stated that when he visited St. George's some years ago, he was "devoured by *stegomyia*." The entomologist, Dr. F. N. Root, sent here by the Rockefeller Foundation to make a malaria survey in 1929, placed on record that during his stay in St. George's, neither he nor his staff were obliged to use mosquito nets.

In addition to assisting in the malaria campaign in anopheline destruction, the Sanitary Department tackles mosquito breeding all over the Colony. Fly breeding is also dealt with, and the reduction in the incidence of enteric fever and dysentery during the past five years owes no small degree of its success to anti-fly measures, together with extensive anti-typhoid inoculation; though no corresponding measure was applicable in cases of amoebic dysentery.

Maternity and child welfare is principally dealt with by District Nurses, resident all over the Colony. In St. George's, the Maternity and Child Welfare League conduct a very useful clinic for mothers and infants.

Medical inspection of school children was established, for the first time in Grenada, during the first quarter of 1931. Inspections of all schools in their districts are now made once a quarter by District Medical Officers, and during 1931 over 27,500 inspections were made.

Education in hygiene has been given a much needed impetus during the past year. By co-operation with the Director of Education during "Teachers' Week," the Chief Medical and Health Officer was enabled to give the elementary school teachers instruction in "How to teach hygiene to elementary school children." This is being followed up in the schools by inspections and examination of the children to ascertain if the practical lessons of *Blacklock's Elementary Tropical Hygiene* are being given, and the teachers have been made to understand that this is a subject which must be treated as important in the school curriculum.

Instruction of the adult population is principally given by Medical Officers in their routine, and by the Sanitary Inspectors and District Nurses in the homes of the people.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The latest accurate information regarding the habitations of the people is that furnished by the census of 1921, which showed a total of 15,188 houses made up as follows :—

Class.				One-room.	Two-room.	Three or more rooms.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Stone	...	...	...	16·3	15·1	68·6
Wood	...	...	...	13·5	17·2	15·3
Mixed	...	...	...	7·1	29·5	63·4
Other	...	...	...	21·5	78·3	0·2

Of the total population at that date there were in :—

	Per cent.
Stone houses	2·4
Wooden houses	85·2
Mixed houses	8·2
Other houses	3·2
Public institutions	1·0

and the average number of inmates per house was :—

One-room	...	...	...	3·0
Two-room	...	...	...	4·6
Three or more	...	...	...	5·7
Average all classes	...	...	...	4·6

The census report of 1921 stated that while the majority of houses in the Colony with one or two rooms contained less than the average number of inmates shown above, many others were occupied by a far greater number than they were probably capable of accommodating with anything like a proper regard to health, comfort, and decency, and that, proportionately, overcrowding was more pronounced in the case of two-roomed houses. In one case there were as many as 13 persons in a one-roomed house, and in another 19 in a two-roomed house.

In the absence of a census in 1931 no recent accurate figures are available, but according to the tax rolls of 1931 there were 8,231 houses (valued above £4 per annum rental) outside the towns, and the rate rolls of the several towns listed 2,970 houses.

Generally speaking, housing conditions have not materially changed in the past decade, though a considerable number of better-class houses have been erected in recent years by persons of the middle class, mainly returned emigrants and prosperous peasant proprietors.

Except in St. George's, where housing schemes have been contemplated from time to time without reaching maturity, no effort has been made to ameliorate housing conditions. Inspections of houses of all classes are carried out by the Sanitary Department as a routine measure, and building by-laws regulating the erection and alteration of houses in towns have been passed by the several District Boards.

There is one Building Society in the Colony established in 1925.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The Colony is purely agricultural and for purposes of external trade produces cocoa, nutmegs, mace, cotton and cotton-seed, fruit, cattle, sheep, poultry, copra, lime-juice and lime-oil, vegetables, hides, turtle and turtle-shell, mahogany, cedar, and log-wood.

Cocoa.—This is the principal cultivation in the island and accounts for over 54 per cent. of the exports.

The quantity and value of the cocoa crop exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Quantity.</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Value.</i> £
1927	...	...	...	...	100,478	305,640
1928	...	...	...	...	91,444	274,461
1929	...	...	...	...	90,987	210,082
1930	...	...	...	...	84,863	192,543
1931	...	...	...	...	87,656	153,923

Owing to the prevalence of low prices there was a heavy fall in the value of cocoa exported.

Nutmegs.—The area under this cultivation continues to be extended.

Crop and exports for the past five years have been as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Quantity.</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Value.</i> £
1927	...	...	...	...	21,238	103,444
1928	...	...	...	...	19,620	87,965
1929	...	...	...	...	22,666	100,323
1930	...	...	...	...	19,972	67,794
1931	...	...	...	...	26,195	54,808

Mace.—This is a derivative of the nutmeg, being a lace-like covering of the kernel. It commands a high price. The quantities produced and exported in the past five years have been as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>						<i>Quantity.</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Value.</i> £
1927	...	...	...	...	...	3,733	59,145
1928	...	...	...	...	...	3,141	49,260
1929	...	...	...	...	...	3,765	55,766
1930	...	...	...	...	...	3,567	41,395
1931	...	...	...	...	...	3,658	28,864

Cotton.—The cultivation of cotton is practically confined to the island of Carriacou. The type grown is Marie Galante, similar to the American (Middling Upland) and commands a somewhat similar price in the Liverpool market. Steps are being taken to improve the cultivation.

The following table gives the exports during the past five years:—

<i>Year.</i>						<i>Quantity.</i> <i>cwt.</i>	<i>Value.</i> £
1927	...	...	...	...	...	3,788	15,890
1928	...	...	...	...	...	2,568	10,735
1929	...	...	...	...	...	2,945	14,905
1930	...	...	...	...	...	3,256	15,395
1931	...	...	...	...	...	2,369	6,272

Grenada does not grow sufficient sugar to supply the local demand and importation of raw sugar amounted in 1931 to 2,495,398 lb., of the value of £11,705.

The values of lime and coco-nut products exported in 1931 were £10,570 and £4,088, respectively.

An attempt is now being made to develop a fruit and vegetable trade with Canada. It has to be remembered that the remaining fertile land not already under profitable cultivation is limited, and development of new cultivation to any great extent could only be at the expense of uprooting other permanent crops.

Rum is manufactured at thirteen sugar estates, but none is exported, the production being barely equal to the demand of local consumption. The quantity made last year was 25,835·2 proof gallons.

Ice is manufactured at a Government factory in St. George's.

The staple products of the Colony are almost entirely exported and there are no records from which local consumption can be ascertained.

Production in all cases is entirely a matter of individual effort. There is ample labour and no recruiting is necessary.

There is no established fishing industry, but supplies of good, fresh fish are constant, as there are several good fishing grounds near the coast. The fishermen do not venture far from land, and pursue their occupation in small canoes and shallow boats.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The total value of import and export trade amounted to £550,878, imports representing £269,618 and exports £281,260, leaving an apparent favourable trade balance of £11,642.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported in the last three years were as follows :—

<i>Article.</i>	<i>1931</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1929.</i>
	£	£	£
Flour	30,168	41,999	47,743
Cotton piece-goods	20,371	25,812	29,645
Wood, etc., unmanufactured ...	9,320	15,946	24,821
Fish, dried	10,765	13,991	18,488
Rice	10,387	13,209	14,720
Boots and shoes	6,433	7,412	11,749
Sugar, unrefined	11,705	12,629	10,086
Motor spirits	6,657	8,603	9,964
Hardware	3,990	5,810	8,144
Motor cars	2,353	7,362	7,185
Motor parts	3,853	5,695	7,174
Kerosene oil	5,354	5,849	7,111

EXPORTS.

The principal exports during the last three years were as follows :—

<i>Article.</i>	<i>1931.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1929.</i>
	£	£	£
Cocoa	153,923	192,543	210,802
Spices, nutmegs	54,808	67,794	100,323
Do. mace	28,864	41,395	55,766
Cotton, raw	6,272	15,395	14,905
Cotton seed	2,000	4,286	4,119
Lime oil	9,269	6,971	10,976

The sources of supply of imports and destination of exports in 1931 may be seen from the following table :—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
	£	<i>of total.</i>	£	<i>of total.</i>
United Kingdom	106,933	39·5	162,729	57·7
United States of America ...	36,245	13·4	75,272	26·6
Canada	55,631	20·6	22,622	8·4
Other British Possessions ...	51,490	19·4	18,109	6·4
Other Foreign Countries ...	19,319	7·1	2,528	·9

In the previous year the percentage of imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom amounted to 34·0 and 46·1 respectively.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The standard rates of wages for the labouring classes, agricultural, manual, and artisan, have been maintained during 1931, though, owing to the low prices obtained for staple products, estates have been compelled to curtail working expenses by reducing the numbers employed and the number of days employment per week.

Ruling daily rates are :—

			<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>
Agricultural	...	...	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Manual	...	...	1s. to 1s. 6d.	10d. to 1s.
Semi-skilled	...	...	1s. to 3s.	1s. 2d.
Skilled	...	...	3s. to 8s.	1s. 2d.

In domestic service the monthly wage, which usually includes board and lodging, varies between 10s. and 16s. for housemaids and yard boys, 15s. to 20s. for cooks, and £3 to £4 for chauffeurs. Where board and lodging are not given, the rate of wages is increased by about 10s. per month.

The cost of living is moderate and has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food during the year were as follows :—

Beef, fresh	...	...	6d. per lb.
Mutton, fresh	...	...	8d. per lb.
Pork, fresh	...	...	8d. per lb.
Chicken	...	...	6d. per lb.
Fish, fresh	...	...	6d. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	1s. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.
Milk	...	...	3d. per bottle.
Potatoes	...	...	2½d. per lb.
Rice	...	...	2½d. per lb.
Butter	...	...	2s. 6d. per lb.
Sugar	...	...	2d. per lb.
Bread	...	...	3d. per lb.
Flour	...	...	2½d. per lb.

Board and lodging can be had at £8—£9 per month. It is estimated that two people could live comfortably on £35—£40 a month, and, with a more restricted range of activity, on £20—£25 a month.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Educational matters are looked after by the Boards of Primary and Secondary Education under the presidency of the Director of Education.

There is a Government Secondary School (Boarding and Day) for boys at which the attendance now averages about 130. Additional buildings have recently been acquired and the school now has a science laboratory and gymnasium.

Carpentry is taught to boys from both the secondary school and the primary schools in a Manual Training Centre in St. George's.

The school now has its own playing fields.

Three secondary schools for girls receive grants-in-aid from the Government. The numbers on the rolls average from 85 to 118.

The total expenditure by Government was £1,486.

The number of recognized primary schools at the end of the year was 60.

The number of pupils on the rolls in 1931 was 13,442, the average attendance being 7,794 or 57·9 per cent.

Evening classes in shorthand and typewriting have been fairly well attended.

The total expenditure by the Government was £10,130.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

(1) By Sea.

A fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service with Canada was established at the end of 1928 by the Canadian National Steamships Company, the service being undertaken by modern oil-burning vessels with excellent passenger accommodation and equipped with cold storage. The steamers start from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and land passengers on the return journey at St. John, New Brunswick, proceeding afterwards to Halifax to load for the voyage south.

Steamers of the Furness Withy Line supply a direct passenger and cargo service between Grenada and New York, calling at intervals of about fourteen days. The voyage occupies seven days.

There is a regular direct monthly service to London by the passenger steamers of the Harrison Line, while frequent calls are made by cargo steamers of this Company, especially during the crop season from December to May.

The cargo steamers of the Ocean Dominion Line from Canadian ports call at intervals of about a fortnight.

Numerous sailing vessels ply between Grenada and Trinidad, Barbados, and other neighbouring islands.

(II) By Cable and Wireless.

The cable line of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company connects Grenada with the outside world.

A wireless station operated by Imperial and International Communications, Limited, is established in St. George's, and communicates direct with Barbados.

A subsidiary Government-owned wireless station is installed at Carriacou, and communicates with Grenada.

(III) By Land.

There is no inland telegraph service. A telephone service, at present under reconstruction without interruption of business, has been established by Government for many years. There are six exchanges and 2,113 miles of subscribers' lines. The number of subscribers in 1931 was 772.

The island is well supplied by a good system of main roads and by-ways kept in good repair by seven motor road-rollers. All the main roads and practically all the by-ways are suitable for motor traffic. The mileage of main roads is 115, and of by-ways 274.

There are regular services of motor-buses between all the towns.

CHAPTER XI.**BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**

Branches of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) and of the Royal Bank of Canada are established in St. George's with agencies in Grenville.

English coinage is in use and five-dollar notes issued by the two Banks are in circulation.

Imperial weights and measures are standard.

There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks in the Colony.

CHAPTER XII.**PUBLIC WORKS.**

The Public Works Department is responsible for practically all Government engineering work including roads, bridges, buildings, waterworks, Crown lands and surveys, land drainage, machinery, harbour, sanitary, etc.

Works throughout the Colony are controlled by the Superintendent of Public Works, and the staff consists of two senior assistants and one mechanic at Headquarters, and two District Road Surveyors. The office staff comprises one chief clerk and accountant, one storekeeper, one second clerk, and one typist.

The total expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1931, was £73,875 inclusive of a sum of over £34,000 expended on Colonial Development Works, all of which were carried out under direct control of the Department, one additional temporary Road Officer having been engaged for general supervision and other details connected with the Western Main Road work.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 383 miles, of which 56 miles were surface treated with oil or emulsion, 267 miles metalled, and 60 miles are earth roads.

Due to the abnormally heavy rainfall during the latter half of the year, expenditure on removal of slides and repair of other drainage was considerably increased. The principal work carried out as the result of storm damage was a reinforced concrete retaining wall at Grand Bacolet 30 ft. long, 12 ft. high.

Of the 18 miles of road reconstructed and oiled or treated with emulsion 15 miles represent work completed on the Western Main Road with provision made from the Colonial Development Fund, and include important diversions at Battery Hill near the town of Victoria and at Union.

Amongst the other works carried out during the year, the most important were the completion of the dental clinic and children's ward at the Colony Hospital, a house for the Colonial Secretary and two others for Government officers in the town of St. George's, and the new Lighthouse at Point Saline. The model school in Carriacou was begun and extensive repairs and additions were made to Government House and other official residences.

Good progress was made with the extension of the water service, including new waterworks at Mount Horne, and additional concrete tanks in Carriacou and Petite Martinique. The latter island was also provided with a jetty.

In Grenada the Queen's Park was extended by draining and filling, and the proposed drainage of the swamp at Sauteurs was surveyed.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

For purposes of the administration of justice, there are the Supreme Court, presided over by the Chief Justice, and Magistrates' Courts. There is a Police Magistrate in each of the two Magisterial Districts into which Grenada is divided, and the Commissioner of Carriacou is Magistrate of that District.

The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court, and the proceedings therein are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance and prosecutions for criminal offences sent up for trial from the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Crown.

Prosecutions by the police in the Magistrates' Courts are conducted by police non-commissioned officers except in important cases when counsel is employed.

The criminal statistics of the Colony vary but little from year to year. Thus, in the year under review the number of persons dealt with in the Summary Courts was 2,717, as compared with an average of 2,571 for the three preceding years.

Out of this total of 2,717, the number of summary convictions was 1,910 and that of convictions in the Supreme Court, 28, as compared with an average during the three preceding years of 1,807 summary convictions and 29 convictions on indictment.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 207 as against 198 in 1930, and 163 in 1929.

Three cases of homicide occurred during the year, two of which were committed for trial in the Supreme Court. Of these one was found insane and incapable of understanding the proceedings, and the other was acquitted. One person committed in 1930 for trial in the Supreme Court for attempted murder, died in prison while awaiting trial. There were no cases of offence against property with violence to the person.

(ii) Police.

The strength of the Police Force on 31st December, 1931, was one Officer in Command, one Inspector, and 98 non-commissioned officers and men. Rural constables to the number of 210, employed on special occasions, were also on the roll.

In addition to the ordinary police duties, the Police Department assists in the protection of revenue, administration of poor relief, inspection of shops and weights and measures, while a Fire Brigade and Government Band are under its management and control.

(iii) Prisons.

A prison for males with an adjacent separate building for females is situated near Richmond Hill, St. George's.

In both prisons there is an infirmary for sick prisoners.

During the year, 151 persons were committed to the male prison and 44 to the female prison, the daily average of inmates for the two prisons being 33·41 and 3·63 respectively.

One death occurred; the general health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory.

Cases against juvenile offenders are heard in a separate place and at a different time to ordinary cases. There is no reformatory or other institution in the Colony for the detention of young offenders.

Time is allowed for the payment of fines imposed in the Magistrates' Courts.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—Regulating the grant of pensions to members of the Police Force.

No. 2.—Validating the electors lists of 1931.

No. 3.—Providing supplementary appropriation for 1930.

No. 4.—Consolidating the law relating to primary education.

No. 5.—Providing pensions for certain head teachers.

No. 6.—Consolidating the law relating to water-supplies.

No. 7.—Providing for the collection of water-rates in Carriacou.

No. 8.—Amending the Customs Duties Ordinance.

No. 9.—Providing for the destruction of court records.

No. 10.—Suspending Ordinance No. 8.

No. 11.—Amending the fees for liquor licences.

No. 12.—Amending the fees for licences for sale of agricultural products.

No subsidiary legislation of any importance was passed during the year.

There is no factory legislation, but a Bill for such an Ordinance is under consideration. Compensation for accidents is provided under the Compensation for Injuries Ordinance (Cap. 146). There is no legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Colony was seriously affected by continued trade depression during the year. The revenue from all sources amounted to £141,739 which included £18,505 from the Colonial Development Fund, and a grant of £750 from the Imperial Government under the Trade Facilities Act.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue in respect of the five years ending 31st December, 1931 :—

Head.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	82,599	81,211	79,906	70,743	59,494
Harbour, Cargo dues	2,375	2,338	2,424	2,458	2,837
Licences, Excise, etc.	37,105	36,057	36,162	31,776	27,814
Estate duties	2,673	423	3,249	1,148	1,147
Income-tax	10,244	14,251	10,318	7,152	6,913
Fees of Office	6,484	5,154	5,918	6,471	6,005
Post Office	2,662	3,315	4,572	2,897	2,587
Telephones	4,289	4,367	4,463	6,176	6,599
Water-supplies	322	304	2,898	2,981	2,829
Revenue from Government property...	3,932	4,468	5,760	5,547	4,536
Interest	1,473	1,227	1,309	1,289	1,343
Miscellaneous	617	322	352	378	246
Land sales	733	432	971	179	134
Colonial Development Fund (Grant and Loan).	—	—	—	2,000	18,505
Grant from Imperial Government ...	—	—	—	750	750
Totals	£155,508	£153,869	£158,302	£141,945	£141,739

No changes were introduced in the methods of raising revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year was £195,183, being more than the revenue by £53,444.

The following table shows the total expenditure during the last five years :—

	£
1927	131,413
1928	131,244
1929	138,193
1930	168,088
1931	195,183

The expenditure for the year 1931 includes £10,760 on Public Works Extraordinary, and £34,738 on schemes assisted under the Colonial Development Act.

Public Debt.

The net indebtedness of the Colony under Public Loans, after deduction of the amounts represented by sinking funds and repayments, at the end of 1931 was £161,155 5s. 4d.

The particulars of the Loans are as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Inscribed Stock (Colony's share)	115,470	0	0
Inscribed Stock (District Board's share)	8,200	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£123,670	0	0
Sundry Debenture Holders, Local Loan Ordinance, 1917	73,760	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£197,430	0	0
Stockholders for Electric Lighting and Telephone Reconstruction Loan	40,712	9	4
Loan for construction of St. Andrew's Market	6,905	2	7
St. Andrew's Water-supply Extension Loan	3,598	19	5
Colonial Development Loans	4,000	0	0
National Debt Commissioners of the United Kingdom for loss on Cable System	3,986	8	0
	<hr/>		
	£256,632	19	4
Sinking Fund accumulated towards redemption of above	95,477	14	0
	<hr/>		
Net indebtedness	£161,155	5	4

Debentures under the Local Loan Ordinance, 1917, to the amount of £2,350 were redeemed during the year.

Assets.

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st December, 1931, was £44,089, to which may be added the sum of £22,667 representing expenditure on the Western Main Road up to 31st December, 1931, temporarily met from surplus funds to be reimbursed by loan. The total liquid surplus assets of the Colony (inclusive of Reserve

Fund) at 31st December, 1931, were £25,115 and the balance is made up as follows :—

	£	£	£
Loans to District Boards ...	1,081		
Loans to Central Water Authority	15,045		
	<hr/>	16,126	
Less accumulated Sinking Fund		6,989	
		<hr/>	9,137
Public Works stores ...			3,399
Colony Drug Store			1,950
Electricity, etc., stores ...			2,142
Grenada Land Settlement ...			380
Queen's Park Pavilion Advance Account			950
Fruit and Vegetable Bureau			596
Overdraft by St. Andrew's District Board			420

Taxation.

The first Schedule to the Customs Duties Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under various headings on which import duties are collected. Duties are payable at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* (British Preferential Tariff) on boots, chinaware, cotton manufactures, cutlery, electrical apparatus, glassware, hardware, wool and wood manufactures of British origin, and 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* on similar foreign goods.

The following specific rates of duty are collected on spirits and tobacco :—

	<i>British Preferential Tariff.</i>	<i>General Tariff.</i>
Brandy ... 17s. 6d. per proof gallon.	20s. 0d. per proof gallon.	
Gin ... 15s. 0d. „ „ „	17s. 6d. „ „ „	
Rum ... 10s. 0d. „ „ „	12s. 6d. „ „ „	
Whisky ... 17s. 6d. „ „ „	20s. 0d. „ „ „	
Cordials and...		
Liqueurs ... 17s. 6d. „ „ „	20s. 0d. „ „ „	
Tobacco, unmanufactured 1s. 0d. per lb.	1s. 6d. per lb.	
Tobacco, manufactured :—		
Cigars, Cigarettes ... 9s. 4d. „	14s. 0d. „	
Other manufactured tobacco ... 6s. 0d. „	9s. 0d. „	

Export duty is levied on the following local products :—

Cocoa ...	...	1s. to 2s. or over per cwt. variable with price of cocoa in London market.
Cotton	...	1s. to 5s. per cwt. variable with price in Liverpool market.
Cotton seed	...	6d. per cwt.
Nutmegs	...	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Mace	...	1s. to 5s. or over per cwt. variable with London market price.
Lime juice (concentrated)	...	1d. to 4½d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime juice (raw)	...	10d. to 2s. 6d. or over per gallon according to f.o.b. price.
Lime oil	...	1d. to 3d. per lb. according to f.o.b. price.
Green limes	...	6d. and over per barrel according to f.o.b. price.

Excise duty is collected on rum made in the Colony at the rate of 6s. per gallon. Total collections in 1931 amounted to £9,383. Trade duty at 2s. 6d. is collected on all spirits delivered for consumption.

Under the Taxes Management Ordinance, land tax is payable at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre, and tax on houses varies according to the rental value, from 4s. to 28s. per house. Houses assessed at a value exceeding £20 p.a., pay 7 per cent. of such value.

Income tax is levied on all incomes exceeding £100. The rates are on a graduated scale which rises from 6d. in the £ to 5s. 6d. in the £. A flat rate is paid by a trading company at 3s. on every £, and by a Life Insurance Company at 1s. 0½d., on every £.

CHAPTER XVI.

LAND AND SURVEY.

Land in the possession of the Crown is small in area, and consists principally of mountain ridges in forest for preservation of the rainfall.

A remarkable feature is the number of small-holdings in Grenada. This condition is believed to be due to the general abandonment of sugar cultivation following upon the emancipation of the slaves in 1838. It has been fostered by various Land Settlement Schemes under which fair-sized properties were acquired by Government and, after division into small lots, re-sold to peasants on favourable terms spread over a number of years.

The land holdings, according to the tax rolls are as follows :—

<i>Total acreage.</i>	<i>2½ acres and under.</i>	<i>Over 2½ to 5 acres.</i>	<i>Over 5 to 7 acres.</i>	<i>Over 7 to 10 acres.</i>	<i>Over 10 and under 100 acres.</i>
15,770	13,173	1,686	306	210	395

The number of large estates is comparatively small, and no lands are available for settlement on a large scale.

Trigonometrical and cadastral surveys of the islands are contemplated.

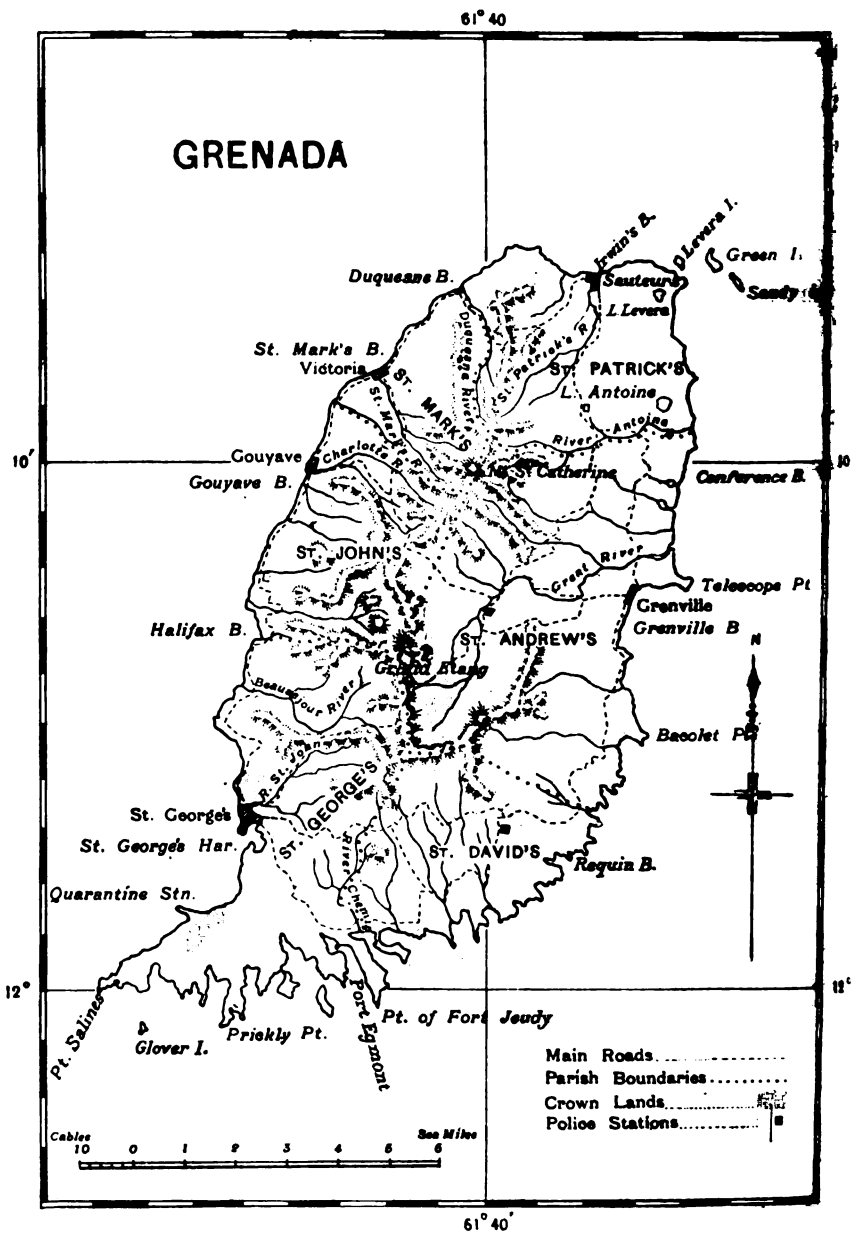
I. C. BEAUBRUN,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

GRENADA.

29th August, 1932.



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE KENYA COLONY AND PROTECTORATE, 1931.

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MAP.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Colony and Protectorate of Kenya is traversed centrally from east to west by the Equator and from north to south by Meridian line $37\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ East of Greenwich. It extends from 4° North to 4° South of the Equator and from 34° East longitude to 41° East. The land area is 219,731 square miles and the water area includes the larger portion of Lake Rudolf and the eastern waters of Victoria Nyanza including the Kavirondo Gulf. The official time used is the zone time $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours fast on Greenwich. Physiographically Kenya consists of: (1) a region generally poorly watered comprising some three-fifths of the total area of the Colony; (2) a plateau raised by volcanic action to a height varying from 3,000 to 9,000 feet; (3) the Great Rift Valley containing Lakes Rudolf, Nakuru, Naivasha, and others; (4) a portion of the basin of the Lake Victoria Nyanza which is 3,726 feet above sea-level. The

Nzoia, Yala, Kuja, and Amala Rivers flow into Lake Victoria Nyanza, the Turkwell and Kerio into, or towards, Lake Rudolf, while from the southern and eastern slopes of Kenya, and from the Aberdares there flow numerous tributaries of the Tana River which enters the Indian Ocean near Lamu.

Mount Kenya, from which the Colony takes its name, is 17,040 feet in height and capped by perpetual snow and ice.

Climate.

The range of temperature in various parts of Kenya is very wide, varying from a mean shade temperature of 80° F. on parts of the coast to 58° F.---65° F. in the highland areas.

The rainfall is generally well-distributed and ranges from about 10 inches per annum in the arid northern areas to 86 inches per annum in the vicinity of Lake Victoria Nyanza. The average rainfall in the main agricultural and pastoral areas ranges from 35 to 40 inches. The heaviest rainfall occurs from March to June and from October to December.

History.

It seems probable that the Arabs and Persians traded along the East African coast from the earliest times. In 1498 Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope and sailed up the coast to Mombasa which was then a flourishing trading city. Between that date and 1729, when they were finally expelled, the Portuguese were in intermittent occupation of Mombasa. British intervention on the east coast began in December, 1823, when H.M.S. *Barracouta* arrived at Mombasa during the course of a survey expedition. At the request of the inhabitants the island was provisionally placed under British protection. The Protectorate was not confirmed by the British Government and it appears to have lapsed after a period of two years. There is no record of its formal termination. In 1829 Seyyid Said attacked Mombasa, and placed there a garrison of 300 Baluchis who were starved into submission by the Mazuri who were, in turn, subdued by Seyyid Said in 1837. A period of great prosperity along the east coast ensued. On the death of Seyyid Said in 1856, Seyyid Majid succeeded to Zanzibar and the mainland dominions. He died in 1870, and was succeeded by his brother Seyyid Bargash, during whose reign British influence grew steadily under Sir John Kirk, and the partition of Africa among the European powers took place.

In 1848 Rebman first saw Kilimanjaro, and the following year Krapf first saw the snows of Kenya. Further exploration was directed to the discovery of the sources of the Nile. Speke first saw the Victoria Nyanza in 1858, and discovered its outlet at the Ripon Falls in 1863. Later in the same year Samuel Baker discovered the Albert Nyanza, and in 1888 Count Teleki von Szek

discovered Lake Rudolf. In 1887 Seyyid Bargash, the Sultan of Zanzibar, granted a concession on the mainland between the Umba and Tana Rivers to the British East African Association which was incorporated under Royal Charter as the Imperial British East Africa Company in the following year. The early activities of the British East Africa Company were concentrated mainly on the coast. In 1889 a considerable caravan was despatched to explore the interior under F. J. Jackson, who established a station at Machakos, and proceeded by way of Kikuyu, Naivasha, and Sotik to Mumias. Captain F. D. Lugard later formed a chain of posts connecting Mombasa with Machakos. In 1892 the survey of the Uganda Railway was begun, and three years later the first rails were laid. In 1895 a British Protectorate was declared over the Company's territory between the Coast and Naivasha, the country west of Naivasha having been included in the Uganda Protectorate. In 1902 the boundaries of the Protectorate were altered to include what was previously the Eastern Province of Uganda and the conditions under which land could be alienated to colonists were laid down. By 1903 there were nearly 100 European settlers in or near Nairobi.

In 1905 the Protectorate was transferred from the authority of the Foreign Office to that of the Colonial Office. A Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Executive and Legislative Councils, were appointed under an Order in Council in 1906.

All foreign consular jurisdiction was transferred to the British Court during 1908. During the years preceding the Great War the Protectorate developed steadily and grants-in-aid from the Imperial Exchequer were discontinued in 1913. Considerable numbers of European and native troops were engaged on active service during the War.

Nominated unofficial members first sat in Legislative Council in 1907, and in 1919 the principle of elective representation was introduced. In 1923 this principle was extended on the basis of a communal franchise to the Indian and Arab communities. Unofficial members first sat on Executive Council in 1920. By the Kenya Annexation Order in Council, 1920, the territories outside the mainland dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar were recognized as a Colony; the coastal belt remains a Protectorate. In 1925 the Province of Jubaland was ceded to Italy.

The Uganda Railway was, in 1921, constituted as a separate financial entity under the control of the Central Railway Council and in 1925 the office of the High Commissioner for Transport was established.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

His Excellency Sir Joseph Byrne, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., assumed the administration of the Government on 13th February, 1931.

The supreme executive power in the Colony is vested in the Governor who is advised by an Executive Council of eight *ex officio* members, and such other official and unofficial members as may be appointed. The Colonial Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer of Government, and through him the Governor's orders are transmitted to the Heads of Departments and Provincial Commissioners who are responsible for their execution. The Colony is divided into nine Provinces, each in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. Within the Districts which comprise the various Provinces the executive functions of Government are vested in District Officers. The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, eleven *ex officio* members, not more than nine Nominated Official Members, eleven European Elected Members, not more than five Indian Elected Members, one Arab Elected Member, and one Nominated Unofficial Member to represent the interests of the African community. If one of the Nominated Official Members is not specifically appointed to represent the interests of the Arab community, an additional Unofficial Member is nominated to represent such interests. The Governor has the right to veto any measure passed by the Legislative Council. Certain minor powers are vested in the District and Municipal Authorities in settled areas and in the Local Native Councils in the native areas.

Local Government.

Settled areas.—The present system of local government in the settled areas dates from the year 1928. Previously all urban areas, with the exception of Nairobi, had been administered as townships, the District Officers being advised by Township Committees in the case of the more important townships. In the rural settled areas they had the advice of District Committees and a measure of local control over roads of access was exercised by Local Road Boards. Legislation was enacted in 1928 giving effect generally to the recommendations of the Local Government Commission appointed in 1926 under the chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. Justice Feetham, C.M.G., and the municipality of Nairobi was reconstituted with a Municipal Council in November, 1928. Shortly afterwards municipalities were set up at Mombasa, Nakuru, and Eldoret, with Municipal Boards, and District Councils were established in the settled portions of the districts of Nairobi, Kyambu, Fort Hall, Naivasha, Nakuru, Kisumu-Londiani, Uasin-Gishu, and Trans-Nzoia. At the same time a Local Government Inspector was appointed to deal with local government administration under a Commissioner for Local Government, an office which was combined with that of Commissioner of Lands, and forms part of the present Secretariat organization.

The constitution of municipal bodies provides for elected European and Indian members, and nominated members representing Government interests; at Mombasa for an Arab member; and in all

cases the District Commissioner, who is chairman of the three Municipal Boards at Mombasa, Nakuru, and Eldoret, is included and represents native interests. Members of District Councils are elected on a ward system.

The year 1931 was the third year of operation of the new system. No important changes in constitution or legislation were effected during the year, and the financial stringency tended to concentrate attention on the possibility of fulfilling the financial obligations to local authorities which the Government had accepted in 1928. The total gross revenue of the four municipalities in 1929 amounted to £177,450, of which the Government contributed £53,542, or 32 per cent. In 1931 their total gross revenue amounted to £192,119, of which the Government contributed £42,637, or 22 per cent. (These figures for 1931 are subject to audit which has not yet been completed). A further reduction in Government grants is contemplated for 1932. The grants payable by Government in Nairobi and Mombasa are (a) a contribution in lieu of rates on unalienated Crown land, (b) one-half of expenditure on main roads, (c) one-half of public health expenditure, (d) a proportion of the revenue collected in respect of motor vehicles, and (e) one-third of the emoluments of certain officers. Municipal authorities may levy assessment rates on capital value, up to a maximum of 2 per cent. on site values. No improvement rate or special rate, for which provision is also made, has yet been levied, and assessment rates have not yet been imposed outside Nairobi and Mombasa. Nakuru and Eldoret rely at present on municipal licence fees and charges and on revenue from municipal undertakings to supplement the Government grants, which amounted in each of these two cases to £3,000 in 1931. In Nairobi, in 1931, £97,794, compared with a total revenue of £125,745, was paid by the public in rates and charges, and in Mombasa £27,165 of a total revenue of £45,401.

Nairobi and Nakuru control their own water-supplies. In Nairobi and Mombasa the public health staff is municipal, and town-planning schemes are in progress under the Town Planning and Development Ordinance, which was passed in 1931. The execution of Mombasa town-planning scheme was continued under the loan of £179,000 which the Municipal Board took over from Government for this purpose during the year. In Eldoret the European Hospital was taken over by the local authorities, who have imposed a poll tax for hospital purposes. In the rural areas, the six District Councils confine their executive functions to roads, the funds for which are at present derived solely from Government grants. In 1931 the basic grants amounted to £36,412 and the additional grants to £7,006, a total of £43,418 as compared with £53,098 in 1930. The Councils obtain sums in addition from vehicle licences. The Councils have succeeded in improving their district roads in a generally satisfactory manner. Various causes have combined to delay the consideration by Councils of the means legally provided for them of raising their own revenues. In so far as the

District Councils are financially dependent on central Government grants and deal only with roads, they represent a modified and incomplete form only of local government. It is in the urban areas that local government has been more rapidly developed and there is no reason to be dissatisfied with the progress made. The smaller urban areas such as Kisumu, Kitale, Thika, and Machakos were declared "Grade A" townships in 1931 (the second of the four stages of municipal development contemplated by the Local Government Commission) with Township Committees appointed by the Governor.

Native Areas.—The Local Native Councils in Kenya are a deliberate creation under the Native Authority (Amendment) Ordinance, 1924. Their powers and functions are defined in that Ordinance and embrace the welfare and good government of the native inhabitants of the areas where they have been established in respect of matters affecting purely local native administration, and particularly the provision, maintenance, and regulation of food and water-supplies, forests, roads, bridges, culverts, public health, the use of land, education, markets and market dues, agriculture, and livestock, etc. The District Commissioner is the President of the Council and membership is determined partly by election and partly by nomination, the proportion of members chosen by each of the two methods varying from Council to Council. The funds, which are controlled by the Councils, are derived from two main sources :—(a) from the proceeds of local native rates which they are empowered to impose on the inhabitants of the areas over which they have control; (b) from the proceeds of the rents of land, forest royalties, etc., levied within those areas.

At the present time in the majority of the Councils a greater portion of the members are illiterate.

Amongst the various services rendered by the Local Native Councils during 1931 the provision of educational facilities occupies perhaps the foremost place. During the year the number of Local Native Councils was reduced from 24 to 22 on the amalgamation of two Councils in two separate districts.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL NATIVE COUNCILS IN 1931.

Province and Council.	REVENUE.			EXPENDITURE (including expenditure on building).							Surplus Balance in hand at end of 1931.
	Rates.	Land (Rents, Fees, etc.)	Other.	Educa- tion.	Medical.	Agri- culture, Veter- inary, and Forestry.	Roads and Bridges.	Water- supplies.	Famine Relief.	Other.	
COAST :—	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.	Sh.
Digo	12,404	5,634	12,616	6,074	3,791	6,209	6,254	4,325	2,000	4,323	44,160
Giriana	14,374	15,059	15,619	—	4,268	4,824	3,648	17,631	—	5,962	72,830
Teita	20,832	2,846	28,794	—	3,281	1,987	2,631	99	—	3,013	88,828
NYANZA :—											
North Kavirondo ...	190,570	18,580	20,129	132,170	21,684	22,988	49,996	—	—	40,644	367,716
Central Kavirondo...	84,898	8,294	14,779	32,096	18,985	9,742	26,622	208	36,364	25,619	260,453
South Kavirondo	53,112	8,965	4,805	4,215	2,294	9,491	12,454	—	—	16,070	141,739
(K.B).											
South Kavirondo	41,807	18,983	4,476	10,000	7,147	4,179	10,487	—	—	21,221	145,970
(L.A).											
South Lumbwa ...	—	8,395	2,019	8,805	—	1,115	6,935	—	4,281	2,323	46,115
NZOIA :—											
Nandi	11,884	14,078	6,234	9,673	5,879	14,175	8,558	—	—	27,403*	76,377
Elgeyo	—	18,008	5,663	15,584	3,492	5,088	50	30	1,237	7,486	86,577
Marakwet	—	5,655	1,395	3,802	106	1,565	567	—	772	663	19,662

KENYA, 1931.

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RIFT VALLEY :—	10,134	4,982	1,169	—	36	1,727	333	—	6,746	6,472	34,260
Baringo I ...	2,153	1,409	320	—	36	—	—	—	—	7,715	4,577
Baringo II ...											
KIKUYU :—											
Kyambu ...	51,268	7,484	5,810	4,000	6,774	8,442	15,340	4,223	—	22,202	155,168
Fort Hall ...	50,472	18,056	4,375	200	33,135	10,963	18,348	—	—	14,921	158,789
South Nyeri ...	58,917	12,005	4,297	57,140	4,485	29,138	1,588	—	—	27,683	113,233
Embu ...	22,843	6,560	4,144	—	7,163	1,999	—	348	—	4,227	44,321
Meru ...	33,527	19,874	1,204	—	83	7,966	1,775	—	—	2,426	100,111
UKAMBA :—											
Machakos ...	95,428	20,261	7,377	18,210	6,868	25,433	15,980	16,385	—	13,110	190,537
Kitui ...	32,646	13,323	18,086	4,037	7,797	2,871	8,615	4,156	—	18,986	135,760
MASAI :—											
Narok ...	—	21,208	1,836	3,387	67	48	—	—	—	1,102	51,816
Kajiado ...	11,778	23,018	7,192	21,633	81	—	—	10,402	—	6,917	33,882
TURKANA :—											
West Suk ...	—	6,180	1,033	8,971	—	—	—	—	—	1,921	14,635
South Turkana ...	—	2,561	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,561
Totals ... Sh.	799,047	281,418	173,372	339,997	137,312	169,950	190,181	57,807	51,400	282,389	2,390,077

* Includes Shs. 22,884 being refund to Government of rents and stand premia overpaid.

III.—POPULATION.

Census enumerations of the non-native population of Kenya were made in 1911, 1921, 1926, and 1931. The numbers of Europeans and Asiatics returned at these census enumerations are shown in the following table :—

	1911.	1921.	1926.	1931.
European, males	2,022	5,800	7,199	9,404
„ females	1,153	3,851	5,330	7,408
Asiatics, males	—	24,342	26,299	36,747
„ females	—	11,640	14,841	20,388
Total males	—	30,142	33,498	46,151
„ females	—	15,491	20,171	27,796

The percentage increase in each section of the population during the last two decades is :—

	<i>European.</i>	<i>Asiatic.</i>
1911–1921	204	203
1921–1931	74	59

The proportions in which the various races entered into the total of the non-native population in Kenya at each census year will be seen from the following summary :—

Racial proportions of the total non-native population.

	<i>Year 1911.</i>		<i>Year 1921.</i>		<i>Year 1926.</i>		<i>Year 1931.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
European ...	3,175	13·1	9,651	21·1	12,529	23·3	16,812	22·7
Indian ...	10,651	44·1	22,822	50·0	26,759	49·9	39,644	53·6
Goan ...	1,136	4·7	2,431	5·3	2,565	4·8	3,979	5·4
Arab ...	9,100	37·7	10,102	22·1	10,557	19·7	12,166	16·5
Others ...	99	0·4	627	1·5	1,259	2·3	1,346	1·8
Totals ...	24,161	100·0	45,633	100·0	53,669	100·0	73,947	100·0

The ratio of females to males at each census for the two main racial sections of the community is :—

	<i>Europeans.</i> <i>(females to 100 males).</i>	<i>Asiatics.</i> <i>(females to 100 males).</i>
1911 ...	57	—
1921 ...	66	48
1926 ...	74	56
1931 ...	79	55

The age distribution in ten-yearly age groups will be seen from the two following tables :—

Europeans.

	1921.	1926.	1931.
0- 9	1,604	2,253	2,872
10-19	850	1,303	1,583
20-29	2,160	2,439	3,403
30-39	2,694	3,220	4,010
40-49	1,535	2,024	2,640
50-59	583	868	1,293
60 and over	225	422	1,011

Asiatics.

	1921.	1926.	1931.
0- 9	7,865	9,895	14,505
10-19	5,501	7,037	9,835
20-29	9,731	9,478	13,273
30-39	6,886	7,469	9,497
40-49	3,360	3,784	5,073
50-59	1,498	1,767	2,024
60 and over	1,141	1,710	2,928

The occupations classified under eight main heads are as follows :—

Europeans.

	1921.	1926.	1931.
Agriculture	1,893	2,199	2,522
Industry	559	607	991
Commerce	937	1,290	2,168
Government and municipal	1,082	1,294	1,735
Professional	441	706	1,124
Personal or domestic	182	310	343
Retired, married women, and children	1,350	1,830	2,215

Asiatics.

	1921.	1926.	1931.
Agriculture	498	755	640
Industry	3,679	4,924	6,446
Commerce	6,086	7,769	14,338
Government and municipal	3,390	3,181	2,972
Professional	50	181	264
Personal or domestic	1,241	961	1,452
Retired, married women, and children	9,351	8,720	11,383

The percentage of the whole population in each class employed in each of these main eight divisions, as recorded at the two census enumerations of 1926 and 1931, is as follows :—

	<i>European.</i>		<i>Asiatic.</i>	
	1926. Per cent.	1931. Per cent.	1926. Per cent.	1931. Per cent.
Agricultural	18	15	2	1
Industrial	5	6	12	11
Commercial	10	13	19	25
Government and municipal	10	10	8	5
Professional	6	7	1	1
Personal	2	2	2	3
Retired	49	4	56	54
Married women and children ... }		43		

A recent investigation into the question of length of residence in Kenya has enabled the following table to be drawn up. The question is an important one in reference to problems of settlement :-

<i>Years of residence.</i>	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Asiatics.</i>
1-5	7,207	20,847
6-10	3,402	7,610
11-15	1,820	4,536
16-20	1,805	3,459
21-25	772	1,565
26-30	272	1,150
31-35	80	639
36-40	9	372
41-45	4	151
46-50	1	147
51-55	—	39
56-60	—	75
61-65	—	24
66-70	—	27
71-75	—	11
76-80	—	9
81-85	—	—
86-90	—	4
91-95	—	2

The last census was taken on 6th March, 1931. Since 1930 the migration returns have been carefully analysed and controlled in the Statistical Department and it is now possible to make a reasonably accurate estimate of population each month. Since the census in March, 1931, up to the end of December, 1931, there has been a steady decrease in the non-native population due to migration. This has affected principally the Asiatic community. The total increase or decrease up to the end of 1931 is indicated as follows :—

	<i>Census figure.</i>	<i>Natural increase.</i>	<i>Migration.</i>	<i>Estimated total.</i>
Europeans	16,812	+ 84	+ 61	16,957
Indians	39,644	+ 330	— 2,778	37,196
Goans	3,979	+ 33	— 581	3,431
Arabs	12,166	+ 102	— 517	11,751
Others	1,346	+ 10	+ 18	1,374
Estimated total 31st December, 1931.	73,947	+ 559	— 3,797	70,709

It will be seen that while the European population has increased by 145 the Indians have decreased 2,448, the Goans 548, and the Arabs 415, while the total non-native population has decreased 3,238.

Native Population.

No accurate census of the native population has yet been made. The population figures are based on estimates made by the administrative authorities, and related to the number of male adult taxpayers in the various districts. They are in consequence subject to a comparatively wide margin of error. The estimated native population in 1931 was 2,966,993 as compared with an estimate in 1926 of 2,682,848 which represents an increase over that period of 10·5 per cent.

No reliable figures of births, deaths, and infantile mortality are obtainable.

Distribution of Population.

The geographical distribution of the population is as follows :—

	<i>European.*</i>	<i>Asiatic.*</i>	<i>Native.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Coast Province	1,317	26,168	218,376	245,861
Ukamba Province	334	1,579	413,776	415,689
Kikuyu Province	8,021	19,228	807,797	835,046
Masai Province	95	380	48,470	48,945
Naivasha Province	880	510	28,812	30,202
Rift Valley Province	1,791	2,379	68,238	72,408
Nzoia Province	3,175	1,905	125,163	130,243
Nyanza Province	1,035	4,793	1,111,487	1,117,315
Turkana Province	16	28	79,874	79,918
Northern Frontier Province	14	122	65,000	65,136
In transit	134	43	—	177
	16,812	57,135	2,966,993	3,040,940

IV.—HEALTH.**General Administration and Organization.**

In Kenya, as elsewhere, the ultimate responsibility for the safeguarding and promotion of the public health rests with the Central Government. In recent years, however, there has been a certain amount of decentralization and the position now is that in every area of the Colony there is a "local authority" which to a greater or less degree has, under the general supervision of the State, responsibility in health matters. In Nairobi the authority is the Municipal Council and in that town the greater part of the health staff is employed by the local authority. Mombasa also employs a considerable part of the local health staff. In the other towns, in the settled European farming districts and in the native reserve districts, the authority is the District Commissioner and the health staff consists of Government servants. Where in the smaller towns there is a Municipal Board, the Board in effect, though not in law, is the local "health authority" since its opinion is always sought by the executive authority. In the native reserves also there has been some administrative development since it is now

* N.B.—The figures of European and Asiatic population are taken from the 1931 census.

the custom to make every endeavour to interest the Local Native Council in health affairs and in not a few reserves the Councils have shouldered financial responsibility for minor services. Super-vising the activities of all these local authorities are the Commissioner of Local Government for the towns and European districts and the Chief Native Commissioner for the native reserves. In consonance with general Government policy the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services is responsible for providing and distributing both medical relief and health staff to the extent provided in the sanctioned Estimates, and he acts in consultation with both the Commissioner of Local Government and the Chief Native Commissioner.

Sanitary Work and Administration.

In Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru, and Eldoret sanitary work and administration is in effect almost wholly a function of the local representative authorities and on the whole has been effectively carried out. In Nairobi notable achievements have been the completion of an excellent and very up-to-date public market and the commencement of a modern and adequate abattoir, while consideration has been given to the important matter of dealing on a comprehensive scale with the native housing question. In Eldoret a notable event was the opening of a new native location which is in every respect a credit to the local authority concerned.

In the native reserves the year has been marked by the progress which has, in certain districts, attended the efforts which have been made to encourage the building of better houses and to provide pit latrines. With regard to housing, progress has been most notable in those reserves to which it has been possible for the Medical Department to post a European Sanitary Inspector. Gratifying results in the installation of pit latrines occurred in one of the coast districts where particular attention was given to the matter by the District Commissioner. Other activities in the reserves have been the distribution of quinine by native distributors employed by the Local Native Councils concerned, the provision of Local Native Council butcheries and slaughter-houses and, in some cases, the protection of local water-supplies.

Medical Relief.

In some of the towns medical relief for Europeans is still provided in Government hospitals, but in others, and to an increasing extent, advantage is being taken of private nursing homes. In one town the local authority has now become responsible for the administration of the European hospital and has obtained powers to impose, and has imposed, a local hospital rate. A non-Government European hospital exists at Nakuru.

In the native reserves, however, medical relief, though to some extent provided by, or through, the agency of Missionary Societies, is for the most part supplied directly by the State and the greater

part of the provision made under the medical estimates is expended on this service. During the year under review a new Government native hospital was opened at Kericho, a new native hospital at Kabarnet was building, and a commencement was made with new native hospitals at Kilifi and in Digo.

At the close of the year 33 Government medical stations were in existence, the native hospitals of permanent construction numbering 23 and those of temporary construction 10. Seven hospitals for Africans were maintained by Missionary Societies and of these six received financial support from Government. In connexion with the Government hospitals in the native reserves there were over 100 out-dispensaries in charge of African dressers.

At the Government native hospitals there were treated during the year the following number of patients :—

In-patients	30,090
Out-patients	246,335

while at the out-dispensaries there were over half a million attendances.

Of the cases of disease treated in hospital the most important and, generally speaking, the most serious were those of pneumonia. Next in importance perhaps are the cases of malaria and of infestation with intestinal worms. In most hospitals the number of cases admitted for surgical treatment is steadily increasing, and in almost all the admissions for tropical ulcer presented both a clinical and an administrative problem. A feature of the year has been the increasing number of women admitted as in-patients and the more general use of the facilities for maternity cases. This increase in the admission of females has followed on the improvement in the construction and equipment of the hospitals which has taken place in recent years, and is closely associated with the posting of trained European nursing sisters to some of the outlying native reserve hospitals. The latter represents an important advance not only in connexion with the efficiency of the relief offered but as a means for utilizing the hospitals as educational and social forces.

Special Clinics.

Clinics for the treatment of venereal disease, for ante-natal work, and for child welfare were held regularly throughout the year at five centres in Mombasa and at four centres in Nairobi by the women child-welfare medical officers maintained by Government in these towns.

Health of Employed Labourers.

Employed labourers, their places of employment and their housing accommodation, are subject to inspection by the Labour Inspectors of the Department of Native Affairs and by Health Officers. During the year no notable outbreaks of disease occurred among this section

of the population and on the whole the health of the labourers was fairly good. Owing to the depression in trade no major housing schemes were embarked on by employers.

Vital Statistics and the Public Health.

The recording of vital statistics even in the towns of Kenya is still far from satisfactory, while owing to the fact that no machinery is in operation for the registration or notification of births among Africans no infant mortality rates can be determined for that race.

The death-rates for the two most important towns, namely Nairobi and Mombasa, were as follows:—

Nairobi (total population 47,919).

Crude death-rate, all races	...	...	...	16·21	per thousand.
Recorded	„	„	...	13·78	„
„	„	Europeans	...	4·78	„
„	„	Asians	...	14·31	„
„	„	Africans	...	15·23	„

Mombasa (total population 43,252).

Crude death-rate, all races	...	...	...	17·25	per thousand.
Recorded	„	„	...	16·6	„
„	„	Europeans	...	5·03	„
„	„	Asians (Indians and Goans)	...	15·09	„
„	„	Arabs	...	24·25	„
„	„	Africans	...	16·17	„

In considering these figures it is necessary to remember, firstly, that except in the case of Europeans (and perhaps of Asiatics) the figures recorded may be, and probably are, smaller than the true figures, secondly, that the European population is to a certain extent a picked one, and thirdly that the African population contains a large number of young unmarried males.

With regard to the African population of the native reserves there are no figures either for births or deaths and there is, therefore, no information which might form the basis of a close appreciation of the state of the public health.

It is, however, of the first importance that this absence of detailed figures should not be allowed to divert attention from the undoubted fact that the native population as a whole suffers severely from preventable disease, and, on that account, and on account of generally insanitary conditions and of an inadequate and ill-balanced dietary, is on the whole more unfit and less well developed than might otherwise be the case.

Ill-health and poor nourishment are to a greater or less degree the lot of all but a few members of the African population at the present time, and this regardless of the fact that in some years the incidence of the major epidemic diseases may be, relatively speaking, low. In 1931, it is true, plague was less evident than in 1930,

and throughout the year the Colony remained entirely free from smallpox, while no explosive outbreak of malaria occurred. Nevertheless as usual pneumonia took its toll of deaths, malaria and intestinal worms were the causes of much invalidity, and poor food and maternal ignorance must have been the cause of much disability and sickness among adults and children.

In the period of a year it is impossible to record any considerable alteration in the basic conditions which govern the state of the public health. There is, however, no decrease in the widespread desire among the native population for education and improvement. Wherever facilities for instruction are instituted a gratifying response is obtained. Particularly noticeable in this respect has been the demand for help and instruction in the improvement of housing. Improvement of housing and living conditions must, however, be limited by the economic status of the people concerned. There was considerable evidence during 1931 that the effects of the world-wide financial depression had made themselves felt in the native reserves and this will result in the curtailment of building and other activities on which social improvement depends. Added to the slump in prices for primary products the ravages of locusts cannot have failed to have their effect.

Propaganda.

Three health exhibits were organized during the year in connexion with agricultural shows. The first was staged at the show of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Kenya, the chief European agricultural show of the year. One part of the exhibit consisted of a complete farm homestead such as might be erected and maintained by a progressive African native in connexion with a small farm in a native reserve. The second was staged at a large native agricultural show and was designed to show the inter-relationship of better farming, better living, and better business. All the Government Departments connected with developmental activities co-operated. The third exhibit was a feature of a small European agricultural show held at Eldoret.

Laboratories.

A noteworthy event in connexion with public health and medical activities was the opening in the early part of the year of the new Laboratory. Modern facilities and a sufficiency of space are provided in place of the generally unsatisfactory and crowded conditions which existed in the old building.

V.—HOUSING.

European.

European housing in the towns of Kenya is, on the whole, good. For the most part the houses are of stone or concrete. There is

at present no lack of housing. European housing in the rural areas is steadily improving and much of it is now, generally speaking good.

Indian.

The Indian population of Kenya lives almost entirely in the towns and in almost every town in Kenya, and particularly in Nairobi and Mombasa, there is much Indian housing which can only be described as slum property. The factors involved in the improvement of existing conditions are the poverty and ignorance of the inhabitants, lack of better housing facilities, vested interests in a large amount of slum property, and lack of funds. The solution of the problem lies chiefly in the proper education (using that word in its broadest sense) of the rising Indian generation, and the consequent improvement in the standard of living of the Indian community. The provision of adequate educational facilities has been pressed forward as rapidly as possible, but during the year under review financial stringency necessitated considerable modification in the programme of development.

Arab.

The housing of an urban Arab population is a problem only in Mombasa and there the conditions which give rise to the problem and the methods of solution are the same as those in the case of the Indian community.

African.

It is in connexion with African native housing that the largest and most important problems arise both in the towns and in the rural areas.

African native housing in urban areas.—The African inhabitants of Mombasa who represent a large proportion of the total population, may be divided into two classes : (a) a stable population most of whom have been born and bred in the town, and (b) a large immigrant floating population of natives who, in increasing numbers, are drifting to the town in search of work. The problems presented by the stable African population are similar to those of the Asiatic residents. The houses are generally superior to the huts in the reserves and are fairly well lit and ventilated. But these houses are built of materials which do not allow of the maintenance of high standards of cleanliness. The problem of affording this class of the community more satisfactory habitations is one of the most urgent with which the local government authority is faced.

The floating immigrant African population are housed for the most part as lodgers in the houses of the more permanent residents. The solution of the problem presented by these people is being found in the provision of locations where they can hire rooms or houses, and where adequate provision can be made for their social needs.

In Nairobi the problem is somewhat different from that in Mombasa since there is no large section of the African population which has urban culture or experience. Wages, too, are generally lower and the standard of living consequently more primitive. The position up to the present has been largely met in much the same manner as in Mombasa, namely, that some Africans have built houses and have let these houses in lodgings to others. There are these differences, however, that firstly, owing to the absence of good building poles and suitable earth and also owing to a lack of building experience, the houses are much poorer than in Mombasa, and secondly the supply is far from adequate and serious overcrowding is almost universal. An attempt at a solution has been made in Nairobi by the provision of permanent housing by the Municipal Council and further provision is proposed.

In the smaller towns the problem though less acute is similar to that in Nairobi. Within the past year a model location has been established in Eldoret which is an example of African town planning carried out with due regard to the social needs of the community.

Rural African housing in the European settled areas in fuel camps, etc.—On a few European estates excellent permanent housing has been provided in the past few years. On the great majority of the larger estates and on almost all the smaller farms, however, such is not the case. The defect is mainly attributable to financial causes. The Government carries out a programme of systematic propaganda which has led to improvement.

The housing of Africans in the native reserves.—It is in the native reserves that the essential housing problem of the Colony lies.

In three at least of the Kikuyu Districts, in three in Nyanza, and in the Machakos, Teita, Digo, and Kilifi Districts there are thousands of African natives who, given the necessary knowledge of designing and building, are anxious to build better houses and to improve their amenities, and many hundreds who are in a financial position to do so. To furnish the necessary social knowledge it has been the policy of the Medical Department during recent years to post to the more developed districts, qualified European Sanitary Inspectors who have technical experience and who have been specially trained to undertake work among Africans. There are five Districts to which European Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed. These Inspectors are not required to carry out sanitary inspections as ordinarily understood. Their business is to teach, and to provide practical assistance and advice in the designing and construction of houses in accordance with the means of the builders, and the available building materials. In the District where most interest is at present being displayed by the natives in new housing the Sanitary Inspector has been able to establish a brick-burning industry in three separate areas where the art was previously unknown. Apart from affording advice and supervising the actual construction

of houses the Sanitary Inspectors, in consultation with the Agricultural Officers, advise with regard to the construction of latrines, grain stores, fowl houses and runs, cow, calf, and cart sheds, the conservation of manure, the digging of manure pits, and the construction of carts. It is often necessary for the Inspectors to restrain a desire on the part of the natives to incur premature expenditure on building, and to indicate the advisability of first improving the general productivity of their holdings, and so affording themselves the means not only of building better houses but also of maintaining them in a proper state of cleanliness and repair when built.

A powerful aid in the improvement of housing in native reserves is the provision of demonstration houses, homesteads, and farms. Some are already in existence and the Local Native Councils are taking a praiseworthy interest in the matter.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Mineral.

Considerable activity occurred during 1931 in prospecting and exploiting the gold resources of the Colony. During the year 405 ordinary prospecting licences were issued, as compared with 15 in 1930, and 748 claims were pegged and registered as compared with 64 in 1930. The discovery of gold was reported in September from the North Kavirondo District near Kakamega and great interest was soon manifested in the area. Operations were mainly confined to the prospecting of alluvial deposits which were found to occur in nearly every valley adjacent to the Yala River and its tributaries. The activity had not reached its zenith at the end of the year.

The mineral production in 1930 and 1931 was :—

				1930.		1931.	
				Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
					£		£
Gold	...	...	...	1,789 oz.	7,490	2,531 oz.	13,194
Silver	...	...	...	155 „	11	288 „	25
Lime	...	...	...	1,800 tons	1,800	940 tons	940
Marble	...	...	...	400 „	4,000	410 „	4,100

44,170 tons of sodium carbonate valued at £199,389 were produced for export in 1931 as against 49,270 tons valued at £222,305 in 1930.

Agriculture.

The economic welfare of the Colony is based almost entirely on agricultural production. The main products are coffee, sisal, tea, barley and oats, and essential oils, which are cultivated almost exclusively on European plantations and estates, maize, wheat, pulses of many varieties, coco-nuts, sugar-cane and wattle, potatoes.

ground nuts, and fruit, which are cultivated both by Europeans and by natives in the reserves; and sim-sim, millets, sorghums, cotton, certain pulses and root crops such as yams, which are mainly produced by natives.

Reliable figures of total native production are not available, and in the following table the acreages, yields and estimated values of the main crops under cultivation by Europeans are shown:—

Crop.	Acreage.	Yield.	1930-1931.		1931-1932.	
			Value. £	Acreage.	Yield.	Value. £
Coffee ...	96,689	310,168 cwt.	1,427,536	98,874	245,991 cwt.	986,988
Sisal ...	137,299	18,858 tons		143,660	14,674 tons	
Tea ...	10,052	930,209 lb.		11,258	1,500,249 lb.	
Maize ...	200,926	1,649,728 bags		160,546	762,622 bags	
Wheat ...	68,851	194,337 „		43,168	86,862 „	
Barley ...	1,967	*		2,330	*	
Coco-nuts...	8,499	3,810 cwt.		8,121	4,736 cwt.	
Sugar-cane	13,493	77,120 „		12,363	104,700 „	
Wattle ...	11,702	*		13,308	*	

Livestock.

The animal industry is an important factor in the Colony's economic structure. Milk, cream, butter-fat, butter, cheese, bacon, ham, and wool are produced mainly by Europeans, while both Europeans and natives supply the market with mutton, beef, ghee, and hides and skins. Considerable quantities of mutton, beef, milk, and ghee are consumed by their native owners, these commodities together with blood drawn from the living animal forming the main articles of diet of certain of the pastoral tribes, particularly the Masai, Nandi, Turkana, etc., and the tribes which inhabit the Northern Frontier Province. The animal products sold by Europeans during the last two years are shown in the following table:—

Animal Products.

	1930.			1931.		
Milk	1,101,704 gal.	...	...	1,108,868 gal.
Cream	145,796 „	...	...	77,063 „
Butter-fat	614,790 lb.	...	...	676,910 lb.
Butter	312,694 „	...	...	285,320 „
Cheese	131,168 „	...	...	111,582 „
Ghee	114,527 „	...	...	96,471 „
Bacon, ham	699,080 „	...	...	*
Wool	654,846 „	...	...	813,662 „

Fisheries.

A considerable fishing industry is in being both on the coast and on Lake Victoria Nyanza. Fish are supplied to Nairobi and other accessible towns from both these sources. No figures indicative of the volume of this trade are available.

* Figures not available.

Manufactures.

Beer and Stout.—gallons (standard) 101,968, worth (approximately) 4s. per gallon.

Soap.—Approximately 120,000 cases of common soap were manufactured in 1931. 6,967 cwt. were exported, mostly to Zanzibar.

The manufacture of aluminium hardware at the coast is progressing steadily and the falling off of duty collections on this class of commodity from £4,109 in 1929 to £333 in 1931 reflects the development of the local industry.

Organization of Production.

The mineral development in the Colony is conducted, at present, almost entirely by individual syndicates. The organization of agricultural production varies in accordance with the nature of the produce. As regards European cultivation the production of sisal, requiring as it does large capital outlay, is conducted mainly by companies. Coffee is produced partly by companies and partly by individual agriculturists, though mainly by individuals. The cultivation of maize, wheat, barley, etc. and the livestock industry is chiefly in the hands of the individual agriculturist, though the manufacture of butter is largely conducted by co-operative creameries.

In regard to native agriculture production is almost entirely conducted by individuals, who, in the main, cultivate sufficient crops to supply the food requirements of themselves and their families, and sell the surplus to obtain money with which to supply their requirements in the way of clothing, etc., and to pay their taxes.

The manufacture of beer is in the hands of a company.

Soap is manufactured by companies mainly situated on the coast.

In addition, bacon, hams, and various food products are manufactured at the Uplands Bacon Factory. Figures to indicate the volume of jams, cordials, etc. which are made in small quantities in various parts of the Colony are not available.

All unskilled and much of the skilled labour on estates is performed by African natives. Recently the tendency has been for employers to recruit their labour themselves, or by sending a reliable native headman to the reserves, rather than to rely on the services of licensed European or Indian professional recruiters. The tendency is to the advantage of the employer in that he obtains his labour at a smaller initial cost, and equally to the advantage of the labourers in that they are enabled to obtain more complete and accurate information as to the conditions, nature, and whereabouts of their employment before engaging their services. Professional recruiters tend to be concerned less with the actual recruitment of labour, and more with supervising the arrangements necessary for

feeding, clothing, and transporting to their destination recruits enrolled by the employers' representatives.

The engagement of labour on a monthly contract is gaining ground at the expense of contracts for longer periods. Actually the labourers do not remain in service for shorter periods of time, and the development is a satisfactory one in that it affords the parties to the contract more freedom of choice in regard to its termination and indicates the growth of a greater degree of confidence both in the employer and the employee than has existed in the past. Labourers are generally employed on a monthly "ticket" on which is entered a record of each completed day's work. On the completion of 30 days' work, which the labourer is generally required to perform within 42 days of the commencement of his employment, the labourer becomes entitled to payment at the agreed rate of wage. It is usual for the employer to provide housing and food, and in many cases blankets and cooking utensils, etc., and he is by law required to keep sufficient medicines and medical comforts for the requirements of his employees. The enforcement of the law governing the relationship of master and servant and the general welfare of the labourer, is primarily the function of the Labour Inspectors. These matters, however, fall within the duties of all Provincial Commissioners and District Officers. The average number of units of labour employed monthly on European holdings during the census year ending February, 1931, was 120,210, of which number 89,856 were men, 3,387 women, 19,393 children, and 7,574 casual workers. The figures show a decrease of 5,675 as compared with the previous year. In addition, 1,671 units were employed monthly by Indian cultivators.

Cultivation by non-Europeans.—Indian cultivation is limited to the Kibos-Miwani area, where mainly sugar is grown, and the coast, where the cultivation of coco-nuts predominates, and is relatively unimportant in comparison with the total agricultural activities of the Colony. Considerable areas on the coast are under cultivation by Arabs who produce coco-nuts for export as well as food for local consumption.

Native Agriculture is becoming increasingly recognized as an important factor in the economic structure of the Colony, and during the year under review considerable attention has been paid to the encouragement and instruction of native cultivation through the District and Departmental Officers. The introduction of new economic crops and the improvement of existing forms of cultivation have advanced and efforts have been made to improve the existing marketing facilities in native reserves.

In common with all forms of agriculture, with the possible exception of coffee, native agriculture suffered considerably during 1931 both from the general depression in the prices of primary products, and from the depredations of locusts.

In the main crop-producing areas of Kikuyu and Nyanza Provinces, the favourable weather produced very promising crops, but locust damage was severe, and natives tended towards reducing the acreage planted to cereals, and were active in planting such locust proof crops as potatoes and cassava. The steady progress noted in recent years in the improvement of the quality of crops grown, particularly those which are marketed, was maintained and in some areas the maize is now of a high standard. This improvement is particularly noted in those parts which, by their proximity to the railway, are in close contact with markets and export facilities. The natives in these areas are rapidly becoming alive to the advantage of organized marketing, and the year has been marked by the institution of co-operative societies and similar trading organizations, which have established godowns at railway stations, and formed trade connexions with European agencies which carry out the actual sales of produce. Another important feature in Nyanza and on the coast has been the recovery of the cotton crop. By a large increase in the output of cotton over the previous year, which was an unfavourable one, Nyanza's total is but little short of the 1929-30 crop, while on the coast the total for that year has been exceeded.

A most successful Native Agricultural Show was held in North Kavirondo in February, and numerous classes of native produce at the Show held by the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Kenya at Nairobi in January received many entries: competition was keen and the produce shown was of a high standard.

The number of pupils at the Native Agricultural School at the Scott Agricultural Laboratories, Nairobi, was maintained at 60, while the number of those at Bukura School increased from 48 to 51.

Local Native Councils are taking an increasing interest in agricultural services and by votes for the upkeep of seed farms, the purchase of seed and implements, the engagement of instructors and similar purposes they are actively assisting the development of their areas.

Development of the native stock industry is hampered by the existence of certain enzootic diseases, which necessitate quarantine regulations prohibiting the movement of cattle from the reserves except through authorized quarantine stations. In some cases this results in a complete prohibition of the movement of cattle. The situation is not so serious in respect of enzootic sheep diseases and in consequence movement is less restricted. Native sources supply a considerable number of the sheep required for slaughter purposes. There are, nevertheless, strong indications that the veterinary services rendered in the reserves are receiving an increasing measure of appreciation and Local Native Councils have shown their readiness to vote funds for these services and for instruction in animal husbandry. In particular, ghee-making

dairies and hide-drying stations are strongly supported. The production of ghee continues to make satisfactory progress in spite of the catastrophic fall in the price of this commodity.

VII.—COMMERCE.

General.

Kenya and Uganda form a single unit for purposes of Customs and there is in consequence complete freedom of trade between the two territories. A detailed examination of the external trade of Kenya alone is therefore a matter of considerable difficulty, more particularly as virtually the whole of the imports and exports of both Dependencies passes through Mombasa, the principal port of Kenya. In addition, produce originating in Tanganyika Territory amounting in value to £410,306 was transported through Kenya and shipped at Mombasa during the year, goods imported into Kenya and subsequently transferred to Tanganyika Territory in 1931 being valued at £427,301. The combined value of trade imports and total exports (i.e., exports of domestic produce and re-exports) of Kenya and Uganda during the year amounted to £10,597,969 as compared with £13,871,883 in 1930 and £18,062,190 in 1929, the total volume of trade of all classes, including importations on Government account, transit and transshipment traffic, being valued at £11,543,651 as against £15,400,376 in 1930 and £19,837,533 in 1929. The value of merchandise cleared for home consumption during the year was £5,148,050 as against £6,820,712 in 1930, a decrease of £1,672,662 or 24·52 per cent. Exports of the domestic produce of the territories were valued at £4,322,136 as compared with £5,483,024 in the previous year. Of this total, goods to the value of £2,343,874 originated in Kenya, the domestic exports of Uganda, calculated in the terms of the f.o.b. value at the port of final shipment, being valued at £1,978,262.

Bonded stocks on hand at 31st December, 1931, were valued at £246,505 or £169,355 less than the value of goods remaining on hand in bonded warehouses at the end of the previous year. So far as the export trade in Kenya produce is concerned, a decrease in value of £1,078,697 or 31·52 per cent. as compared with exports during the previous year is recorded, this serious contraction being due to the combined effects of a further fall in world market prices and to a decrease in the actual quantities available for export. Among the more important commodities exported, sisal alone reflects a small increase in the tonnage shipped, but the price had so far depreciated that a fall in value of £204,705 as compared with the previous year is shown. Exports of coffee decreased by 64,185 cwt. in quantity and £440,440 in value, maize exports being 362,968 cwt. less in quantity and £145,961 less in value than in the previous year. Trading conditions during 1931 were extremely difficult, no period of the year being free from grave and constant

anxiety. The progressive contraction in the purchasing power of the population consequent upon a sustained period of world depression and the havoc caused by locusts was reflected in a marked decrease in consumption of all classes of goods, including locally produced food-stuffs. Importations were restricted to minimum requirements, the abnormally low level of both bonded and open stocks held by wholesale and retail merchants being a feature of trading operations during the year. This exercised a steadying influence on the local import markets and prevented a general collapse, which might have resulted from the acute and long continued depression had less prudent methods been adopted.

The forced abandonment of the Gold Standard by the British Government in September, 1931, was of some assistance to the East African territories where sterling costs of production and marketing (apart from an increase of 15 per cent. in shipping freights) remained virtually unaffected by the change. The consequential improvement in the price of exportable commodities on the world's markets quoted in terms of sterling thus increased the possibility of effecting sales overseas at remunerative rates. Unfortunately, the continued infestation of locusts coupled with financial stringency minimized the benefits which otherwise would have accrued to the territories, as on the one hand full advantage of the firmer markets could not be taken owing to a shortage of exportable commodities, and on the other hand a contraction of working capital did not permit of a normal replenishment of stocks.

Net collections of Customs revenue amounted to £1,002,001 as compared with £1,139,031 accruing in 1930. Of this sum £698,571 was allocated to Kenya and £303,430 to Uganda.

Imports.

The following table gives comparisons between the values in 1931 of trade imports from the various countries, and corresponding values for 1930 :—

					1931.	1930.
					<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	38·11	37·10
British Possessions	...	...	...	...	20·17	22·89
United States of America	...	...	...	...	9·51	11·25
Japan	...	...	...	...	9·51	6·74
Netherlands	...	...	...	...	5·56	4·78
Germany	...	...	...	...	3·59	4·01
Other Countries	...	...	...	...	13·55	13·23

The following summary shows the values of the principal commodities imported from the various countries in 1931 and 1930 :—

Country of Origin.		Commodity.	Value 1931.	Value 1930.
			£	£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.		Whisky	69,594	80,304
		Cigarettes	99,588	129,496
		Cement	72,842	76,991
		Galvanized iron sheets	65,847	83,878
		Tubes, pipes and fittings	31,507	24,073
		Tin, bar, plate, or sheet	8,447	44,426
		Machinery	132,087	208,309
		Cotton textiles	152,732	223,875
		Wearing apparel	25,298	47,093
		Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	81,554	86,867
		Lubricating oils and greases	14,142	23,783
		Motor vehicles and bicycles	44,939	72,552
		Tyres and tubes	28,630	32,658
		Rice	55,840	83,956
India		Wheat meal and flour	36,195	48,909
		Tea	8,758	24,019
		Cotton textiles	67,835	80,325
		Jute bags and sacks	125,963	176,000
Union of South Africa...		Coal	52,900	67,380
Canada		Motor vehicles	71,110	151,019
		Tyres and tubes	18,810	11,542
Germany		Aluminium hollow-ware	607	10,055
		Agricultural and horticultural tools.	8,197	7,113
		Shovels, spades, axes and matchets.	2,606	7,385
		Machinery	11,238	21,491
Netherlands		Cotton textiles	13,233	21,681
		Vehicles	11,577	20,859
		Tobacco (manufactured)	70,315	70,768
		Cotton textiles	160,718	184,908
Japan		Cotton textiles	317,656	278,840
		Apparel	55,668	55,999
Persia		Fuel oil	99,428	125,807
United States of America.		Machinery	16,126	31,916
		Cotton textiles	50,930	59,280
		Lubricating oils and greases	38,708	65,613
		Petrol	107,740	104,056
		Kerosene	39,523	61,853
		Motor vehicles and bicycles	42,951	166,303
		Tyres and tubes	24,537	38,446
Dutch East Indies		Fuel oil	22,197	24,851
		Petrol	106,074	139,442
		Kerosene	26,822	64,951

Cotton Textiles.—The value of home consumption clearances of cotton textiles of all descriptions amounted to £834,887 as compared with £926,484 in 1930, the Customs duty collected thereon being £178,783 or 17·9 per cent. of the total net duty collections. Transfers to Uganda were valued at £338,092. With the exception of coloured piece-goods, all classes show a decrease in value as compared with importations during the previous year.

The average value per yard of imported cotton textiles was 3·9d. as compared with 5·8d. in 1930 and 5·7d. in 1929, cotton blankets decreasing in value from 1/7·2d. to 1/3·9d. per blanket. The United Kingdom has never been a serious competitor in the valuable market for unbleached sheetings but has hitherto been the principal source of supply of bleached, printed, and dyed fabrics. During 1931, however, the market for khangas (i.e., dyed piece-goods) has been maintained, but a considerable proportion of the trade in bleached and printed goods has been lost to foreign competitors. In times of financial stringency the price factor naturally becomes a most important consideration and to this fact may largely be ascribed the falling off in the percentage value of the United Kingdom trade in this market. It does not, however, alter the present position and prompt and energetic steps will require to be taken by British manufacturers if their predominant position is to be regained. Holland and Belgium continue to provide the bulk of imported blankets ; grey sheeting (Americani) being supplied principally by Japan and the United States of America.

Vehicles.—880 motor cars, 333 motor lorries, and 15 motor tractors valued at £154,251 were imported during the year as against 1,269 motor cars, 904 motor lorries, and 196 motor tractors of the total value of £363,414 imported during 1930. The main sources of supply were Canada, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom—the value of motor vehicles of these descriptions originating in the United Kingdom being £33,048 or 21·4 per cent. of the total. Motor-cycle imports fell from 125 valued at £5,458 in 1930 to 95 valued at £3,576 during 1931. A striking decrease in the trade in imported motor vehicles is recorded, the total value under this heading (not including parts and accessories and tyres and tubes) being £157,827 as against £368,872 in 1930. The share of the United Kingdom in this trade increased from 10·4 per cent. in 1930 to 22·8 per cent. during the year under review. The decrease in importations of pedal cycles, which is very largely a native trade, reflects the general depression, an additional factor militating against an expansion of this trade being the rapid development of motor bus services largely patronized by natives throughout the territories. During the year under review imports decreased from 7,056 bicycles to 1,903. The value of this trade, which is almost entirely with the United Kingdom, amounted to £9,379.

Other Imports.—A consistent shrinkage in imports of all classes is recorded.

Re-Exports, Transit and Transhipment Trade.

The value of goods re-exported during 1931 amounted to £1,183,807 or 23·25 per cent. of the total value of trade imports as compared with £1,465,194 or 21·16 per cent. in 1930. Transit and transhipment traffic were valued at £106,015 and £183,809 respectively, as against £126,108 and £237,101 in 1930.

Exports.

General.—The domestic exports of Kenya and Uganda are mainly agricultural, the principal exception being carbonate of soda procured at Lake Magadi in Kenya. The value of the domestic produce of Kenya and Uganda exported in 1931 amounted to £4,322,136 as compared with £5,483,024 in 1930, a further fall in commodity prices and a decrease in the actual quantities available for export being responsible for this reduction. Empire markets continue to absorb a large proportion of exports, no less than 77·68 per cent. being despatched to destinations within the Empire. The principal foreign markets were Belgium (4·96 per cent.), United States of America (4·61 per cent.), and Japan (3·31 per cent.). The following summary shows the principal exports and the markets in which they were absorbed, giving comparative figures for 1930 :—

<i>Destination.</i>	<i>Commodity.</i>	<i>Value 1931.</i>	<i>Value 1930.</i>
		£	£
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Maize	157,071	237,179
	Butter	27,665	43,576
	Coffee	890,234	1,380,530
	Cotton	123,991	115,248
	Sisal fibre and tow	24,597	95,781
	Cotton seeds	145,477	119,544
	Hides and skins	61,643	98,713
	Wool	37,871	70,615
	Tin ore	22,176	55,300
	Gold bullion	19,955	7,835
India	Cotton	1,380,062	1,354,946
	Sodium carbonate	10,737	29,025
Tanganyika Territory	Maize	8,707	18,185
	Wheat meal and flour	20,163	32,080
	Sugar	70,163	27,205
	Soap	6,826	9,846
	Tea	13,927	6,548
	Cigarettes	12,366	5,381
Union of South Africa.	Coffee	27,448	51,782
	Sisal	2,874	5,532
	Sodium carbonate	2,998	3,937
Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union.	Sisal fibre and tow	159,798	257,496
	Hides and skins	22,627	47,606
	Wattle bark	14,172	11,585
	Wool	5,756	nil.
Japan	Cotton seeds	3,747	6,636
	Sodium carbonate	130,890	139,716
United States of America.	Maize	99,717	115,413
	Sisal	13,106	38,236
	Skins	23,159	34,501
	Coffee	44,680	3,492
Netherlands	Maize	24,924	60,667
	Wattle bark	16,239	14,241
	Sisal	10,511	975
France	Maize	18,758	44,912
	Coffee	26,751	16,167
	Hides and skins	18,435	21,125

<i>Destination.</i>	<i>Commodity.</i>	<i>Value 1931.</i>	<i>Value 1930.</i>
		£	£
Italy	Maize	9,000	5,626
	Sisal	7,740	16,258
	Hides	8,216	15,705
Germany	Hides and skins ...	11,275	9,774
	Barks for tanning ...	8,174	5,538
	Coffee	13,620	1,321
	Sisal	11,459	81

Cotton.—The quantity of raw cotton exported increased from 521,409 centals in 1930 to 758,811 centals in 1931 but as a result of the fall in market prices the value decreased from £1,569,768 in 1930 to £1,509,895 in 1931, the average declared value per cental being £3 0s. 2d. in 1930 and £1 19s. 9d. in 1931. Cotton seed was valued at £149,224 (45,435 tons) as compared with £138,262 (33,783 tons) shipped in 1930. Of the total quantity of cotton exported, 3,131 centals were declared as originating in Kenya, the remainder being the produce of Uganda.

Coffee.—Exports of this commodity amounted to 315,893 cwt. valued at £1,147,818 as compared with 358,944 cwt. valued at £1,581,865 in 1930, the average declared value per cwt. being Shs. 72/8d. as against Shs. 88/1·67d. in 1930. Of the total quantity shipped 245,903 cwt. originated in Kenya and 69,990 cwt. in Uganda, these figures comparing with 310,088 cwt. and 48,856 cwt., respectively, exported in 1930. The United Kingdom continued to provide the principal market, receiving in 1931 Kenya and Uganda coffee to the value of £890,234, though the continued widespread demand for East African coffee is indicated by the fact that shipments consigned to over thirty countries appear in the statistical records.

Maize.—Shipments of maize decreased in quantity by 362,968 cwt. and in value by £145,961 in comparison with the previous year, the 1931 figures being 1,860,120 cwt. valued at £419,684 as against 2,223,088 cwt. valued at £565,645 exported during 1930. The decrease in shipments is directly attributable to the serious effects of locust infestations during the year.

Sisal Fibre and Sisal Tow.—Exports during 1931 were 15,994 tons valued at £232,564 compared with 15,847 tons valued at £437,269 shipped during 1930, the average declared values per ton on shipment being £14 10s. 10d. in 1931 as against £27 8s. 5d. in 1930.

Hides and Skins.—A further decrease in the quantity and value of hides and skins is recorded, exports amounting in value to £151,422 as compared with £245,303 in the previous year. Of the former total, hides and skins to the value of £109,458 originated in Kenya and £41,964 in Uganda.

Carbonate of Soda.—44,170 tons valued at £199,389 were shipped in 1931 as against 49,270 tons of a value of £222,305 exported in 1930.

Wheat.—Exports decreased from 214,528 cwt. valued at £91,449 in 1930 to 63,644 cwt. valued at £15,313 in 1931, whilst importations of wheat meal and flour amounted to 66,844 cwt. in 1931 as compared with 64,037 cwt. in 1930.

Sugar.—The development of the local sugar industry is reflected in the increased exports and decreased imports of this commodity.

Shipments during 1931 amounted to 66,191 cwt. valued at £71,223 compared with 21,716 cwt. valued at £27,969 exported in 1930, imports being 6,566 cwt. valued at £6,388 in 1931 and 34,891 cwt. valued at £23,791 in 1930.

Tea.—Both import and export figures are again affected by the local production of tea, imports decreasing from 3,788 cwt. in 1930 to 1,341 cwt. in 1931 whilst exports increased from 1,443 cwt. to 3,184 cwt. in the same period.

Inter-Territorial Trade.

In addition to the foreign trade of Uganda, virtually the whole of which passes via Kenya either in transit to or from Mombasa or through the intermediary markets of Kenya, a considerable trans-frontier traffic in local produce exists. During 1931, the value of local produce sent from Kenya to Uganda amounted to £146,166 as compared with £182,026 in 1930 and £189,938 in 1929, the principal commodities involved being wheat meal and flour, maize meal and flour, animals living—for food, common soap, tea, butter, beer, bacon and ham, and timber. The value of Kenya produce exported to Tanganyika Territory amounted to £122,745 as compared with £172,737 in 1930, Tanganyika Territory produce imported for consumption in Kenya and Uganda being valued at £96,151.

Under the Customs Agreement of 1927, the free interchange of imported goods between Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory is allowed, the value of imported merchandise transferred from Kenya-Uganda to Tanganyika Territory during 1931 amounting to £427,301 (including specie valued at £42,380), and the total Customs duty collected by the Kenya and Uganda Customs administration and transferred to Tanganyika Territory under this agreement reaching a total of £78,969. Traffic in imported goods in the reverse direction was valued at £131,297 (including specie to the value of £62,000) the Customs duty involved being £12,380. Tanganyika Territory produce passing through Kenya for shipment at Mombasa amounted in value to £410 306.

Air Traffic.

Considerable use of the Customs aerodromes established at Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Kampala, and Jinja was made by

aircraft on foreign service during the year. 184 arrivals landed 169 passengers and cargo to the value of £11,901 whilst 188 departures shipped 215 passengers and cargo to the value of £14,631 (including bullion valued at £10,800).

Ivory.

The arrangement concluded in 1930 whereby the Customs Department assumes control of the sale of all ivory, rhino horns, or hippopotamus teeth purchased or confiscated by the Governments of both Kenya and Uganda operated satisfactorily during the year under review. By agreement with the Customs Department of Tanganyika Territory, sales in East Africa are now held at regular quarterly intervals, the approximate times being as follows :—

Mombasa :—(sales of all Kenya and Uganda Government ivory, etc.).—May and November.

Dar es Salaam :—(sales of all Tanganyika Government ivory etc.).—February and August.

In conformity with this agreement two sales were held at Mombasa during the year, a total weight of 61,606 lb. of Government ivory realizing £23,994. Of the former figure 41,948 lb. originated in Uganda and 20,108 lb. in Kenya.

For more detailed particulars in regard to imports, exports, sources of supply, countries of destination, etc., reference is invited to the Annual Trade Report of Kenya and Uganda or to the Annual Blue Book of the Colony.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The wages of servants who may be included in the class “ domestic servants ” are as follows :—

	<i>Range.</i>		<i>Normal Wage.</i>
	<i>Shs. per month.</i>		<i>Shs. per month.</i>
House and Personal Boys	17/-	to 80/-	40/- and 30/-
Cooks	22/-	„ 100/-	50/-
Dhobies	27/-	„ 42/-	30/-
Kitchen Boys	12/-	„ 27/-	20/-
Garden Boys	7/-	„ 27/-	20/-
Seychellois Ayahs (Nurses)	—	—	100/-
Native Ayahs „	50/-	„ 60/-	60/-
Visiting Sweepers	—	—	10/-

The rates of wages paid to labourers in the various classes of employment are as follows :—

<i>Government Employ.</i>					<i>Average wage including value of rations.</i>
					Shs.
Railway	...	...	...	..	22/16
Defence	...	...	...	...	34/32
Other Government Departments	...				26/95
Municipalities	...	...	...		23/45
Agriculture	...	...	...	...	13/43
<i>Other Employment.</i>					
Mines	...	...	...	...	23/42
Timber industry	...	...	...	...
Firewood	...	...	...	...
Building trade, etc.	...	...	...	...

A general downward tendency in the wage level has been brought about by the prolonged financial depression. Though it is not possible to indicate numerically the extent of this tendency, it is the case that labourers enjoying comparatively higher rates of wages have suffered a greater percentage reduction than those with smaller wages. A labourer's working day averages eight hours.

There has been considerable reduction in the scales of remuneration of both Europeans and Indians engaged in commerce, and in the rates of wages of Indian carpenters, stone masons, and similar skilled artisans.

Cost of Living.

Cost of living figures and a determination of the price-level of commodities have been obtained by the Statistical Departments since 1927, and an analysis of all available data has been extended backwards to 1924. It has also been possible to obtain prices of about 35 articles in 1912-13 for purposes of comparison with 1931.

The following table shows the index numbers for the period 1924-1931 :—

<i>Year.</i>			<i>All articles.</i>	<i>Locally produced articles.</i>	<i>Imported articles.</i>
1924	...	...	100	100	100
1925	...	...	101	109	98
1926	...	...	99	112	95
1927	...	...	95	109	91
1928	...	...	96	114	90
1929	...	...	95	111	90
1930	...	...	92	104	88
1931	...	...	87	97	83

The impression which has arisen that prices have fallen to the pre-war level is erroneous. The prices of 35 articles, excluding vegetables, petrol, rents, and servants are still 45-55 per cent. above the pre-war level. If petrol, transport, vegetables, etc., are included the general price-level affecting the cost of living

at the end of 1931 cannot be less than 60 per cent. above the pre-war level.

In regard to the cost of living of native labourers, in the great majority of cases the labourer is supplied with rations which consist mainly of maize meal and meat, salt, etc., by the employer. As already stated, the majority of labourers draw their staple food in kind, and not in cash, and are therefore not affected by fluctuations in price. The staple food-stuff is maize meal and the average consumption is 2 lb. per day costing approximately Shs. 3 *per mensem*, and additional rations Shs. 2 *per mensem*. In short, a native labourer receives his board and lodging free plus two to three times its value in cash.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

European Education.

Secondary schools for European boys and girls of the Colony were opened at the beginning of the year, the one for girls in Nairobi and that for boys at Kabete. In Government schools the total average roll for the year was 1,077 in 16 schools as compared with 1,032 pupils in 17 schools in 1930. In private European schools the average roll was 417 as compared with 329 in 1930. There were 11 private schools, two exclusively for boys. Most of the other private schools are mainly for girls but usually cater for a limited number of small boys.

Indian and Goan Education.

Secondary schools exist at Mombasa and Nairobi. An important event was the opening of the Girls' Government School in Nairobi. The total average roll in 12 Government schools was 2,482 as compared with 2,115 pupils in 10 schools in 1930. In three aided schools there were 1,803 pupils as compared with 1,422 in the previous year. A further 828 pupils were attending 15 Indian schools which were unaided.

Arab and African Education.

The opening of the secondary school for Arabs at Shimo la Tewa near Mombasa marked an important development in education in the coast area. Steady development in other areas continues and the school age generally tends to become more normal. Buildings at the new Government Central School at Kakamega (North Kavirondo) were sufficiently advanced to enable the school to open. Substantial progress was made with the new school which is being built close to Nyeri. Both of these schools are erected from Local Native Council funds. Consideration of further applications from other Local Native Councils for similar facilities in their areas has had to be deferred.

At the end of 1931 there were 34 Government schools for Africans with 2,936 pupils on the roll; this compares with 2,271 pupils in 29 schools in 1930. The Jeanes School at Kabete continues its

good work of training selected native teachers and their wives in methods of teaching social hygiene and welfare. At the Native Industrial Training Depot apprentices complete their five years' apprenticeship, the first three years of which have been spent at Government or Mission technical schools. Various missionary bodies were assisted by grants-in-aid. In 1931, grants were given in respect of 242 African schools in which there were 19,968 scholars. In addition there were 1,417 schools with 51,399 pupils which were not in receipt of any financial assistance.

In addition to the new secondary school for Arabs referred to above, secondary education was provided at the Protestant Alliance High School at Kikuyu for 85 pupils.

Statutory Advisory Bodies.

The passing of the Education Ordinance assented to in February, 1931, involved the establishment of various advisory councils, school area committees, and school committees which took the place of the bodies constituted under the old Ordinance. All these new bodies rendered very valuable service in advising the Director during the year.

Medical Inspection.

It is a matter of regret that owing to the financial situation it was found necessary to suspend the school medical service. Principals of schools continued to compile statistics periodically which will be of assistance when it is found possible to restore this service.

General.

The Education Ordinance of 1931 (section 4(d)) empowers the Governor "from time to time from funds voted for the purpose by the Legislative Council to make grants in aid of such of the following institutions as are constituted and administered in a manner approved by him :—

- (i) public libraries and public museums ;
- (ii) orphanages, provided that grants in aid of such institutions may include grants in aid of the maintenance of the inmates thereof ;
- (iii) creches ;
- (iv) institutions or organizations which, in his opinion, promote the education or health of the children of the Colony ;
- (v) institutions or organizations for the education of adults ; "

It has not yet been found possible to make financial provision for (ii) to (v) under this section.

The Lady Northey Home for European Children is maintained by public subscription and the fees collected. The Lady Grigg Child Welfare Institutions for Indians and Africans have continued to do good work. The League of Mercy, the East Africa Women's League, the British Legion, and the Salvation Army continue their valuable activities on behalf of the needy, especially the children.

The Red Cross, Boy Scout, and Girl Guide Organizations have been active in carrying on their well-known work in an efficient manner. Boy scouts now exist among all races.

A Musical Festival is organized annually and has provided a great stimulus to singing, solo and choral, elocution, and instrumental music, especially among children. An Examiner from the Trinity College of Music, Mr. Albert Mallinson, visited Kenya and met with a satisfactory response. His visit and personality afforded an inspiration to further endeavour. Government provides the remuneration of the Board of Censors for the Cinema, and the Education Department has a representative on the Board. The Natural History Society, which receives a grant from Government, carries on its valuable activities with headquarters in an admirable Museum in the Coryndon Memorial Buildings. The MacMillan Memorial Library receives grants from Government and the Municipality, and, with its associated organizations, including the Kenya (Carnegie) Circulating Library, under the new Librarian, Mr. B. Barton-Eckett, A.L.A., has sprung into great activity and is doing very useful work. The Kenya Arts and Crafts Society holds an Annual Exhibition which has again proved to be most interesting. The Agricultural Show has, with a section for African Arts and Crafts, also provided an incentive in the same direction. Associations and clubs for the encouragement of games and athletics of all kinds continue to increase and flourish, and the African Athletic Association holds competitions for Africans in the districts, and an annual meeting for olympic games in Nairobi.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The outstanding event under this head was the inauguration of a regular weekly air mail service with Great Britain on the opening of the North African section of the London-Cairo-Capetown Imperial Airways air route, the terminal point in the Colony in 1931 being Kisumu on Lake Victoria. This service is of particular value to the Colony and has been popular from the start. It is estimated that 11½ per cent. of the total number of letters and postcards despatched to Great Britain and Europe are sent by air. The southern section of the route had not been opened by the end of the year. In July, pending the opening of the southern section (Kisumu-Capetown), a supplementary and self-supporting local air service connecting with the main service was established between Nairobi and Kisumu and later, in co-operation with the Tanganyika Post Office, between Mombasa and Dar es Salaam via Tanga and Zanzibar. The Nairobi-Kisumu service was maintained by a local company—Wilson Airways, Limited—and the coast service by Tanganyika Government machines.

The ordinary oversea mail services to all parts were reasonably frequent throughout the year. English mail despatches averaged

1.25 per week and arrivals 1.4. The average time in transit each way was 19 days. The internal mail services extend to all parts of the Colony, and except in the case of a few of the more remote districts motor transport has replaced runner services. The internal telegraph and telephone system consists of 2,560 miles of pole route, and a wire mileage of 13,919. Almost all administrative centres are connected by telegraph. Communications in the Northern Frontier and Turkana areas are maintained by a wireless system consisting of eight small stations (500 watts), which are maintained and operated by military units and handle civil as well as military telegrams.

Notwithstanding the general depression there was a substantial increase in the demands for telephone facilities. The number of telephones in use rose by 10.5 per cent. from 2,403 in 1930 to 2,655. A net addition of 67 exchange lines to the Nairobi exchange brought the total number of subscribers to that exchange to 742 at the end of the year. Public exchange facilities are also available at Mombasa (285 subscribers), Nakuru (62 subscribers), Eldoret (59 subscribers), and Kitale (39 subscribers). In addition small rural exchanges exist in various parts of the country. The number of subscribers (mostly farmers) connected with these is 266. The installation of an automatic telephone exchange at Nairobi, on which work commenced in July 1930, was completed and the exchange brought into service at the end of January. The new system is very popular with subscribers and is working very efficiently. The installed capacity is 1,000 lines and the ultimate capacity 2,000. Trunk lines connect the Eldoret and Kitale exchanges and the Nairobi and Nakuru exchanges. Work on the Nairobi-Mombasa new trunk lines, to which reference was made in the 1930 Report, had practically been completed by the end of the year and the service has since been opened.

A comprehensive agreement relating to the Colony's external telegraph communications and to the local broadcasting service was concluded with Imperial and International Communications, Limited, on favourable terms. Under this agreement the Company has (a) leased the Government coast wireless station at Mombasa and is under an obligation to maintain there a continuous day and night service, (b) acquired the interests of the British East African Broadcasting Company, and subsequently operated the "Kenya-radio" and the broadcasting services, and (c) conceded substantial reductions in cable rates between the Colony and Great Britain, India, and the Union of South Africa. The cable and "Kenyaradio" services were satisfactorily maintained during the year. Cable communication with Europe was interrupted for 25 days in August and September owing to a breakdown on the Zanzibar-Aden cable but no public inconvenience was caused as traffic was diverted via "Kenyaradio." The land line route to South Africa, whose

length militates against speed and accuracy, is not largely used. The necessary wireless facilities at Nairobi in connexion with the Cape—Cairo air service are provided under an arrangement with Imperial and International Communications, Limited. Independent long and short wave transmitters and receivers have been installed by the Company for the service and these are available, when not engaged on air work, for general purposes if required by Government. The local broadcasting service still suffers from lack of public support and no progress towards greater popularity was made during the year. The number of receiving licences issued was 418 as compared with 419 in 1930. Variety in the programmes—which consist mainly of reproductions of records, British Official Press News, local news items, market and weather reports—is necessarily limited. Transmission is on 350 metres and 49·5 metres simultaneously. Transmission on the former is satisfactory, but reception on the short wave, in certain parts of the country, is not consistently steady.

Roads.

The expenditure on the public road system, exclusive of that incurred on roads vested in local authorities, (*vide* pages 8 and 9) was £92,010, of which £16,032 was on new capital work, and £75,978 on maintenance and improvements. The extension of the mileage of the road system during the year was inconsiderable, as, although several new roads were opened, they replaced pioneer tracks which had previously been in use. The length of the public road system under the Public Works Department for maintenance is approximately 7,750 miles. During the last few years the policy has been to improve its condition by better alignments and higher types of construction rather than to extend its length materially. In 1931, 139 miles of hard surfaceing were carried out, which increased the length of surface road to 483 miles. Five miles of bituminous coating were also laid down and 21 concrete and steel bridges constructed, mostly in replacement of old temporary ones which had become worn out. The rainfall was well distributed through the year and little damage was done to road works by floods.

Revenue derived from public traffic shows some falling off from the figures for the preceding year. Revenue from motor taxation, including drivers' licences, amounted to £53,395, and from the petrol Customs duties and tax to £85,594. Customs duty on vehicles and their accessories yielded £24,491, and the tax on animal-drawn vehicles £431.

Harbours.

The year 1931 saw the completion of the Kilindini Harbour Development Scheme. No. 5 transit shed and adjoining quay, together with the bulk oil jetty and oil wharf were finished and equipped. The capacity of Kilindini Harbour is now 1,000,000 tons of general cargo per annum.

Shipping.

The total tonnages (import and export) handled at Kilindini Harbour and Mombasa Old Port during the years 1930 and 1931 are given below. These figures do not include oil imports discharged through the Magadi Company's pipe lines, nor soda exported from that Company's pier. Coal imports are shown separately.

COAL IMPORTS.

1931.	1930.
61,926 tons.	108,017 tons.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OTHER THAN COAL.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Imports</i> <i>B/L tons.</i>	<i>Exports</i> <i>B/L tons.</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>B/L tons.</i>
1930	271,974	319,953	591,927
1931	273,551	323,569	597,120

The total trade of the Port of Mombasa (including Kilindini Harbour and the Old Port) for the year 1931 as compared with 1930 is summarized in the following statement :—

	1931.	1930.
Number of steamships	584	663
Net tonnage of steamers	1,800,701	1,904,266
Imports—B/L tons	338,969	467,327
Exports „	367,739	370,444
Passengers landed :—		
European	6,562	7,272
Non-European	12,349	16,724
Passengers embarked :—		
European	6,577	7,008
Non-European	15,800	15,239

The registered tonnage (inwards and outwards) at all Kenya sea-ports during the year as compared with 1930 was as follows :—

	<i>Registered</i> <i>Tonnage</i> 1931.	<i>Registered</i> <i>Tonnage</i> 1930.
Vanga	9,996	13,795
Funzi	8,081	13,032
Mombasa	3,671,081	3,873,219
Kilifi	10,837	12,618
Malindi	18,063	16,332
Lamu	59,819	71,025
Kipini	2,459	—

Railways.

The carriage of public goods provided a revenue of £1,567,429 and the tonnage of the traffic amounted to 801,994 tons, as compared with £1,766,516 and £898,280 in 1930. There was a considerable

amount of competitive road traffic parallel to the railway and particularly between Mombasa and Nairobi and Nakuru. By selecting for transport only such articles as are carried by the railway at high rates, this road competition inflicts considerable losses on the railway. The Carriage of Goods by Motor (Control) Ordinance (which was passed in August, 1931), has the effect of regulating, though not of eliminating, competition with the railway by restricting the carriage of goods by road between certain scheduled points to the holders of licences issued by the Road Transport Control Board.

Passenger Traffic.—Revenue from passenger traffic also showed a decrease on 1930 figures. In 1931, 768,224 passengers contributed a revenue of £215,510, while in 1930 1,106,106 passengers contributed a revenue of £286,363. There was an all-round decrease in the number of passengers, as the following figures show :—

Passengers carried.

			1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Total.
1931	...	...	12,515	46,224	709,485	768,224
1930	...	...	19,085	59,479	1,027,542	1,106,106

The traffic on Lakes Victoria, Kioga, and Albert, and on the River Nile, on which the Administration maintains services, is shown in the following table :—

			1931.	1930.
Earnings	...	...	£104,000	£207,000
Total expenditure	...	...	£84,653	£101,785
Tonnage carried	...	...	93,226 tons	148,596 tons

Fuel Consumption.—The following figures show the consumption of coal, wood, and oil fuel on the railway during the year :—

			1931.	Cost.	1930.	Cost.
			Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Coal	...	...	60,842	80,545	69,913	95,395
Oil	...	...	810	1,900	960	3,378
Wood	...	...	196,814	74,512	221,865	89,803

On the lake steamers the figures were :—

			1931.	Cost.	1930.	Cost.
			Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Oil	...	...	2,734	7,540	4,054	14,740
Wood	...	...	12,701	7,156	11,495	6,997

Permanent Way.—In spite of a reduction in maintenance staff the main line track was maintained in reasonably good condition. The Thomson's Falls branch gave some trouble during the year, and while it has been put in very fair order, it is not yet fully consolidated.

New Construction.—The Yala-Butere extension to the North Kavirondo branch line, 10·75 miles in length, was completed during the year, at a cost of £36,200. The Kisumu seaplane slipway was completed and handed over to Government.

Railways and Harbours Working Results.—The results of working the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours and ancillary services during 1931 are shown in the following table :—

	<i>Railways.</i>	<i>Harbours.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	£	£	£
Earnings	1,903,726	315,330	2,219,056
Ordinary working expenditure	1,300,805	173,422	1,474,227
Surplus of receipts over ordinary working expenditure.	602,921	141,908	744,829

The expenditure on capital account at the end of 1931 amounted to £22,203,845. Interest-bearing capital provided £13,797,158 of this sum, the balance being contributed by :—

	£
Parliamentary Grants, 1896 and 1902	5,686,437
Accrued Interest on 1924 Loan	420,112
Contributions from revenue—	
Direct (formerly called expenditure extra-ordinary)	629,217
Through Betterment Funds (capitalized)... ..	1,612,382
Through Marine Insurance Fund (capitalized)... ..	58,539
	<hr/>
	£8,406,687

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banks.

The following banking institutions are established in the Colony :—

The National Bank of India, Limited, with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Kisumu, and Eldoret ; the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Eldoret, Nyeri, Nakuru, and Kitale, and an agency at Nanyuki ; and Barclays Bank (D.C. & O) with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi, Eldoret, Kitale, and Nakuru.

During the year a Land and Agricultural Bank under the control of Government was formed, with a capital of £240,000. The Bank makes advances to farmers over periods varying from 10 to 30 years on first mortgage security. At 31st December, 1931, the Bank had made advances totalling £32,300.

Currency.

The standard coin is the East African shilling with subsidiary coinage of the following denominations :—

50 cents (silver) ;

10 cents, 5 cents, and 1 cent (nickel).

A note issue is maintained and notes of the following denominations are in circulation :—

Shs.
10,000
1,000
200
100
20
10
5

In addition to the above a considerable amount of old rupee and florin currency, both coin and notes, has been in circulation in the Colony but with effect from 1st January, 1932, this currency ceases to be legal tender.

The currency is controlled by the East African Currency Board, London, which replaced the old local Board of Currency Commissioners in 1921. The Board is represented in the Colony by local Currency Officers.

Weights and Measures.

The standard weights and measures of the Colony are identical with those in use in Great Britain, namely, the Imperial pound, yard, and gallon. Application of the Kenya "Weights and Measures Ordinance" has not yet been extended to the whole Colony. Revised and comprehensive rules relating to examination of weights and measures and prescribing fees for testing were promulgated under the Ordinance during the year. Inspections of weights, measures, etc., on traders' premises were carried out by the Deputy Inspector of Weights and Measures in the more important towns of the Colony. Prosecutions were instituted on 27 charges relating to the use of false and unstamped weights or instruments. Revenue derived from testing and examination amounted to £190.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure incurred through the Public Works Department on public works services amounted to £594,800. Of this sum £300,388 was from funds derived from the revenue of the Colony and provided for under the Public Works Schedules, £242,077 from loan, and £52,335 from various other sources. On account of the economic depression, expenditure from revenue sources on capital works was small, amounting only to £22,905. Much of this was incurred on the completion of various works which had been under construction but not finished during the preceding year. Progress was maintained on the considerable building programme financed from loan monies which has been proceeding during the last few years. Quarters for 33 Europeans, 46 Asians, and 132 Africans were finished and occupied during the

year, a large Medical Research Laboratory and a building for the medical stores for the Colony were completed and brought into use, and the construction of the Law Courts in Nairobi was begun. Eleven water-works were maintained and operated, yielding an aggregate revenue of £44,804. Construction progressed on the water-supplies of Kitale and Mombasa. The former water-works were opened in March. The last twelve miles of the gravitation main for Mombasa water-works, estimated with its ancillary works to cost £165,000, were laid, and the 240 foot-span bridge to carry the new main across the estuary of the Mwachi River was well advanced at the close of the year. The distribution system for these water-works, estimated to cost £57,000 on completion, was still the subject of design. The demand by farmers, Local Native Councils, and other authorities for boreholes to tap underground sources of water-supply was small in comparison with previous years. Twenty-nine successful holes were sunk and yielded a supply of 833,000 gallons per day in the aggregate at an average depth of 236 feet. Enterprise in the diversion and use of water from public streams by landholders was well maintained, and the demand shewed an increase on the figures for 1930. One hundred and nine new authorizations were issued. As regards water-power, authority was granted for the development of a total of 7,153·546 horse-power, mostly in small installations. The work on hydrographic survey was much curtailed. Eighty-one regular gauging stations were maintained and over three hundred miscellaneous gaugings and investigations were undertaken in connexion with this service.

Success continued to attend the operations in connexion with the artificial drying of local timbers, and kiln-seasoned local timber is now in use almost universally in the Colony for the joinery for Government buildings.

The head office of the Public Works Department is situated at Nairobi, and five divisional offices are maintained for the control of the construction and maintenance of works and the local administration of other public works services. The head office is chiefly concerned with the general administration of the public works services and with surveys, designs, quantity surveying, and financial arrangements. The divisional offices deal principally with local control of construction, maintenance, and the collection of revenue.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa is a superior Court of Record and has jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from the Courts of the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya, the Uganda, Nyasaland, and Zanzibar Protectorates, and the Tanganyika Territory. The Judges of the Court of Appeal are the Judges and

Acting Judges for the time being of the Supreme Court of Kenya, the High Courts of Uganda, Nyasaland, and Tanganyika, and His Britannic Majesty's Court for Zanzibar. During 1931 the Court held four ordinary sessions and one special session. The total number of appeals filed was 177, of which 61 were from Kenya.

Throughout the year the Courts operating in the Colony were as follows :—

The Supreme Court sitting at Nairobi, Mombasa, and on circuit, in which the Chief Justice and three Puisne Judges have been actively engaged ;

The Courts of the Resident Magistrates at Nairobi (2), Mombasa, Nakuru, Kisumu, and Eldoret, presided over by legally qualified officers ;

The Courts of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class, presided over by Provincial Commissioners, District Commissioners, and District Officers ; and

The Courts conducted by Liwalis, Cadis, and Mudirs.

The Courts Ordinance, 1931, came into operation on 1st October, 1931, and embodied most of the features of the old Ordinance, Cap. 5 of the Revised Laws. According to the new Ordinance the limits within which Subordinate Courts exercise jurisdiction are as follows :—

1st Class—Within the limits of the Province in which situated.

2nd and 3rd Class—Within the limits of the district in which situated.

Liwalis', Cadis', and Mudirs' Courts—In the Coast Province within the limits of the districts in which they are situated.

Section 18 of the new Ordinance sets forth the civil jurisdiction of the respective Courts apart from that of the Supreme Court, which is governed by the Kenya Colony Order in Council, 1921.

The criminal jurisdiction of the various Courts is set forth in sections 7, 9, and 10 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1930. Section 187 of the Criminal Procedure Code vests in certain of the Subordinate Courts power to try minor offences in a summary manner without recording fully the evidence as is done in the more serious offences.

The Native Tribunals Ordinance (No. 39 of 1930), provides for the establishment of Native Tribunals to be constituted in accordance with the native law or custom of the area in which the Tribunal is to have jurisdiction, and for the determination of the jurisdiction of such Tribunals. Whereas formerly an appeal from a Council of Elders had to be heard as an original case in one of the Colony's Courts, from which Court an appeal lay to the Supreme Court, under the Ordinance under reference appeals against the judgment of the Tribunal in the first instance lie to the Appeal Tribunal (if any), thence to the District Commissioner, and thence to the Provincial Commissioner. In certain circumstances any person aggrieved by the decision of the Provincial Commissioner given on

Appeal from a District Commissioner may apply to the Provincial Commissioner to state a case to the Supreme Court. The Native Tribunals are therefore largely divorced from the Colony's Courts and it is only as a final Court of Appeal that the latter take cognizance of matters originally adjudicated on by a Native Tribunal. The inauguration of the new system of Native Tribunals made considerable headway during 1931 and reports concerning its success are generally satisfactory.

Police.

The Kenya police is composed of African police, with a small percentage of Asiatic personnel, under the command of European officers and non-commissioned officers. The Force is distributed mainly amongst police stations throughout the settled and urban areas of the Colony and Protectorate. The work of each police station is controlled by a European non-commissioned officer. Stations situated in each district are grouped under the direction of a commissioned officer. Police detachments are stationed in the Northern Frontier Province. African police are stationed also in native reserves where they operate under the direct control of officers of the Administration, although the enforcement of law and order in the reserves is largely the responsibility of the local tribal police. The personnel of the Force was decreased during 1931 on grounds of economy.

Cognizable offences under the Penal Code reported to the police in settled and urban areas in 1931 totalled 5,162. Of that number 4,977 were true cases. An increase is shown of 995 true cases over the total for 1930. Accused persons in 3,889 cases were brought for trial before the Lower or Supreme Courts. The greater volume of crime is in the main attributable to the effect of general unemployment throughout the Colony resulting from prevailing depression in all branches of industry. The bulk of the increase consisted of cases of petty theft, burglary, housebreaking, and stock theft. The total stated value of property stolen was Shs. 308,083/- of which Shs. 115,626/- or 37 per cent. was recovered. No serious outbreak of grave crime occurred during the year.

A small patrol of police continued to be employed on the boundaries of the Kisii-Lumbwa native reserves to maintain order between those tribes. A small area in the Nyanza Province in which gold mining operations were commenced also called for the presence of a few police.

COURTS.

The number of criminal cases committed for trial to the Supreme Court aggregated 175, involving 312 charges against 302 individuals. These figures compare with 178 cases and 266 charges during 1930. Of the total 242 charges actually tried during 1931, 235 were against males and 7 against females. Convictions numbered 138, acquittals 76, and discharges 28. Europeans were convicted on

6 charges, Asiatics on 12 charges, and natives on 120 charges. Of the punishments imposed, 5 convicts were fined, 1 was sentenced to fine and peremptory imprisonment, 75 to peremptory imprisonment, 2 to whipping with fine or imprisonment or both, 1 (a juvenile) to whipping, 7 were bound over or otherwise disposed of, 36 (including 1 female) were sentenced to death, and 11 (including 3 females) were detained during the Governor's pleasure.

The number of Supreme Court civil cases filed during the year was 761, an increase of four over the number for 1930. Probate and administration causes numbered 176 compared with 173 opened in 1930, and 128 bankruptcy petitions were filed compared with 141 for the previous year. In addition, 8 trust causes were opened and 32 divorce causes were filed. There were 50 civil and 65 criminal appeals from Subordinate Courts, 89 criminal revisions, and 680 confirmation cases.

During the year a total of 49,791 persons were charged in Subordinate Courts throughout the Colony, involving 50,927 charges in 44,076 criminal cases, an increase of 4,202 charges over 1930. These charges were disposed of as follows :—

Convictions	...	...	43,911
Acquittals	...	...	3,441
Discharges	...	...	3,575
Total charges			50,927

Details of the sentences imposed are as follows :—

Fines	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,215
Detention camp in default of payment of fine or surety	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,360
Imprisonment in default of fine or surety	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,555
Fine and detention camp	...	...	...	...	...	...	319
Fine and peremptory imprisonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	965
Detention Camp	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,022
Peremptory imprisonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,832
Whipping with fine or imprisonment or both	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Whipping	...	...	...	...	...	...	331
Whipping with fine, or detention camp, or both	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bound over or otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,400
Other punishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,798
Total convictions							43,911

In addition, 877 charges were brought against juvenile offenders, involving 837 convictions, 28 acquittals, and 12 discharges.

Prisons.

The 63 penal establishments under the administration of the Commissioner of Prisons are composed of three first-class prisons for the accommodation of long-term prisoners (sentenced to three years or over), three second-class prisons for medium-term prisoners sentenced to between six months and three years), 24 third-class prisons at district headquarters (for those sentenced to less than six months imprisonment). There are also 33 detention camps for the accommodation of natives who have not previously undergone more than one term of imprisonment, and who are sentenced to detention for minor offences, usually imposed in default of payment of fine. No sentence of detention may exceed six months.

The total number of persons committed to prisons and detention camps during 1931 was 26,905, representing an increase of 22 per cent. over the number committed during 1930. The increase in the last three years has been nearly 100 per cent. Of the above total, 6,756 were sentenced to imprisonment, 12,977 were sentenced to detention, 302 were civil debtors, 202 were lunatics, and 6,668 were admitted on remand and subsequently not sentenced to imprisonment. Of the total of 6,756 persons committed to serve sentences of imprisonment, 18 were Europeans, 202 were Goans, Indians, Arabs, and Somalis, and 6,536 were Africans. Female and juvenile convicted prisoners numbered 193 and 316 respectively—a slight drop in the former and a small rise in the latter as compared with the 1930 figures. The general health of prisoners was somewhat better than in 1930, the sick percentage having fallen from 4 to 3·6 per cent., but the total of 56 deaths during the year was nearly double that of 1930, although lower than in previous years.

Only 20 juveniles served short terms of imprisonment and these were all confined in class I and II prisons where there are European officers of the Prisons Department in charge. In every case the juvenile was segregated from adult prisoners whilst undergoing sentence. A further 28 juveniles were sentenced to terms of from 3 to 5 years in a reformatory and were transferred to Kabete, whilst 268 underwent sentences of caning only. The annual increase in juvenile crime though small is steady, and is to be accounted for largely by the influx of natives to the towns and the rise in adult crime which results.

The technical training of convicts under European instructors has progressed. It is also satisfactory to be able to record that employment with furniture makers and builders has been secured by convicts on release who have been trained as carpenters and masons in the prisons workshops. The amount by which the sum paid into the Colony's revenue exceeded the expenditure on raw materials for prisons industries was £3,735 as against £3,717 in 1930. Convict labour, apart from industries, is used by Government Departments free of charge.

At present the teaching of prisoners is confined to religious and secular instruction given voluntarily by various mission bodies; but a step has been taken towards the ultimate improvement of the criminal by first improving the intelligence and education of the prison warder. With this object in view an African school-master was engaged towards the end of the year for the regular instruction of the recruits passing through the Prisons Depot at Nairobi, and for voluntary classes to warders in Nairobi Prison. At the same time grants from the Prisons Rewards and Fines Fund were made to the Superintendents of the other two class I prisons for the pay of African teachers who hold evening classes for the warder staff. The recruiting of the warder staff, which numbers 400 with an average annual wastage of about one quarter of the total, still presents a serious problem. There is no shortage of applicants, but the majority are not of the right type for the work required, which involves long and monotonous hours of duty, night guards, and the probability of a man being posted for years at a time to a station far from his home. Steps are being taken to obtain a more suitable type of recruit.

Under Section 319 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Ordinance No. XI of 1930), discretion is given to the Court passing sentence of a fine, with imprisonment in default of payment, to allow the convicted person time in which to pay the fine imposed; or to direct that the fine imposed shall be paid by instalments, and to suspend the sentence of imprisonment in default to conform with the order as to payment of the fine which has been made by the Court.

The probation system has not been introduced into the Colony.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Fifty-eight Ordinances were passed during the year 1931. A summary of the more important enactments is given in each case.

No. 1—*The Mining Ordinance, 1931.*—Ordinance No. 1 of 1931 embodies the recommendations of the Conference of the Mining Departments of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory held in March, 1928, and aims at uniformity in the mining legislation of the various British Dependencies.

No. 2—*The Education Ordinance, 1931.*—This Ordinance makes provision for education in the Colony. It proposes to abolish the School Area Committee for European and Indian Education, while retaining the Advisory Central Committees and at the same time creating school committees for each school. The Ordinance contains a direct enactment of compulsory education for any race in any area prescribed by Proclamation, but provision remains for the retention of fees which may, however, be remitted by administrative act. The Ordinance allows for the introduction of free compulsory

education at some future date which may thus be gradual and made to fit the financial position of the Colony.

As regards African education, provision is made for the creation of school area committees based as far as possible on the areas of Local Native Councils. The Local Native Council is given considerable representation on the school area committee and the Provincial Commissioner, or his nominee, is to be Chairman. Advice in regard to Arab education is provided for by the creation of one central committee sitting at the coast.

No. 3—*The Land and Agricultural Bank Ordinance, 1931.*—This Ordinance provides for the establishment and management of a Land and Agricultural Bank to enable farmers and other occupiers of land to secure long-term credits at a reasonable rate of interest for the purpose of approved development of their lands.

No. 4—*The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.*—This Ordinance amends the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1930. The duties imposed on wines and spirits under the Wines and Spirits Ordinance, 1926, are embodied in the general Ordinance and certain other existing duties are increased.

No. 18—*The Local Government (Eldoret European Hospital Rate) Ordinance, 1931,* empowers the Eldoret Municipal Board to impose a special rate for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a hospital for European patients.

No. 19—*The Local Government (District Councils) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* empowers the Uasin-Gishu District Council to impose a special hospital rate towards the maintenance of the Eldoret European hospital.

No. 20—*The Local Government (Municipalities) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* enables Municipal Boards and District Councils to amalgamate for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a hospital.

No. 22—*The Butter Levy Ordinance, 1931,* provides for fostering the export trade in butter by imposing a levy of a sum not exceeding 25 cents a lb. on butter sold in the local market.

No. 23—*The Carriage of Goods (Control) Ordinance, 1931,* regulates the hitherto indiscriminate competition with the railway by the carriage of goods by motor vehicles.

No. 24—*The Co-operative Societies (Registration) Ordinance, 1931,* makes provision for the formation, registration, and management of Co-operative Societies.

No. 26—*The Legitimacy (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* amends the Legitimacy Ordinance of 1930. Under that Ordinance the law of legitimacy in Kenya differs in one important respect from that which obtains throughout the British Empire. The difference lies in the omission in the law of this country of that clause which

in all similar legislation throughout the Empire debars from the benefit of legitimation all offspring of adulterous intercourse. Inasmuch as domicile is not an essential prerequisite under the Legitimacy Ordinance, 1930, it would be competent to the parents of such offspring to come to this country and there legitimate their offspring with all the consequences of legitimation following on that act. The amending ordinance of 1931, while continuing the omission of the clause debarring from legitimation the offspring of adulterous intercourse, substitutes the test of domicile for the test of residence in applying the provision of the Legitimacy Ordinance, 1930. The other amendments are formal in character.

No. 29—*The Arms (Traffic with Abyssinia) Ordinance, 1931.*—On 21st August, 1930, a Treaty regulating the importation of arms and ammunition was signed on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Italy, and Ethiopia. Article XI of that Treaty provides that the High Contracting Parties undertake that they will immediately put in force in their respective territories adjacent to Abyssinia all the regulations necessary to comply with the conditions imposed on Abyssinia in respect of the importation and use of arms in that Treaty, and this Ordinance was therefore enacted.

No. 31—*The Beer (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* doubles the duty upon beer brewed in the Colony.

No. 33—*The Carriage of Goods by Motor (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* amends the Carriage of Goods by Motor (Control) Ordinance, 1931, which provides for the compulsory insurance of vehicles licensed under that Ordinance by inserting a provision to the effect that nothing shall be taken to render void any provision in a policy requiring the person insured to repay to the insurer any sums which the latter may have become liable to pay under the policy and which have been applied to the satisfaction of third parties.

No. 36—*The Game Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* gives assistance to owners of land who are desirous of protecting game birds on their land, by making it a criminal offence to trespass and shoot game birds on private land.

No. 37—*The King's African Rifles Reserve of Officers (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* makes it possible to grant commissions in the King's African Rifles Reserve to persons other than those who have previously served in His Majesty's Forces, with the object of enabling local residents to be granted commissions in the Supply and Transport Corps.

No. 39—*The Native Liquor (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931,* removes an onus of proof placed on an accused person by the Native Liquor Ordinance, 1930, which was considered inequitable.

No. 40—*The Corporations (Probate and Administration) (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1931, makes it clear that all Trust Corporations covered by the provisions of the principal Ordinance must possess the qualifications of £25,000 capital.

No. 41—*The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1931.—Under the Penal Code there were two scales of imprisonment in default of payment of a fine, namely, one for natives and one for non-natives. It was considered that this differentiation was unjustifiable and the amending Ordinance removes the anomaly.

No. 43—*The Native Authority (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1931, is intended, *inter alia*, to prevent the destruction of game by poison in certain areas, by making the possession, sale, or transfer of such poison, an offence.

No. 45—*The Kenya Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Ordinance*, 1931, provides for the establishment of a Kenya Naval Volunteer Reserve.

No. 48—*The Town Planning and Development Ordinance*, 1931, repeals and replaces the Town Planning Ordinance (Chapter 85 of the Revised Edition) which had become obsolete.

No. 49—*The Sale of Wheat (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1931, amends the Sale of Wheat Ordinance, 1930, so as specifically to limit the milling of wheat grown by a miller to wheat grown and milled by him for his own consumption.

No. 51—*The Native Christian Marriage and Divorce Ordinance*, 1931, governs the marriage and divorce of Christian natives. It is the outcome of prolonged consideration and is largely due to the representations of various missionary bodies.

No. 52—*The Excise Duties Ordinance*, 1931, is a revenue measure and imposes duties of excise on sugar, tea, cigarettes, and manufactured tobacco manufactured in the Colony on and after the 1st day of January, 1932.

No. 53—*The Excise Duties Agreements Ordinance*, 1931, enables the Governor in Council to enter into agreements, in regard to excise duties, with the Governments of the other East African Dependencies which may become parties to the Customs Union under the Customs Management Ordinance, 1926.

No. 56—*The Entertainments Tax Ordinance*, 1931, imposes a tax on entertainments.

No. 57—*The Levy on Official Salaries Ordinance*, 1931, empowers the Governor in Council by order to impose a levy not exceeding 20 per cent. on the salaries of officers in the public service.

No. 58—*The Levy on Salaries (Transport Services) Ordinance*, 1931, empowers the Governor in Council by order to impose a levy not exceeding 20 per cent. on the salaries of servants of the High Commissioner for Transport.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.**Revenue and Expenditure.****STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR FIVE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1931.**

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1927 ...	2,846,110	2,515,115
1928 ...	3,020,694	2,834,647
1929 ...	3,333,742	3,505,072
1930 ...	3,241,599	3,438,874
1931 ...	3,066,930	3,216,089

STATEMENT OF LOAN POSITION OF COLONY AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1931. PUBLIC DEBT AND SINKING FUND.*Public Debt.*

<i>Floated.</i>	<i>Amount of Issue.</i>	<i>Rate of Interest.</i>	<i>Price of Issue.</i>	<i>Redeemable.</i>	<i>Expenditure at 31st December, 1931.</i>
	£	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>		£
1921 ...	5,000,000	6	95	1946-56	5,000,000
1927 ...	5,000,000	5	99½	1948-58	4,875,237
1928 ...	3,500,000	4½	95	1950	3,428,279
1930 ...	3,400,000	4½	98½	1961-71	2,582,859
	<hr/> 16,900,000 <hr/>				<hr/> 15,886,375 <hr/>

Sinking Fund.

Sinking Fund contributions of not less than 1 per cent. commence at the expiration of three years from the date of issue.

The rates of contributions established are as follows:—

	<i>Per cent.</i>
1921 Loan ...	1 ³ / ₁₀
1927 „ ...	1
1928 „ ...	1

ALLOCATION OF TOTAL PUBLIC DEBT AND ANNUAL CHARGES.

Loan.	Capital Debt.			Annual Charges.								Total Annual Charges.
	Kenya Colony.	Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours.	Total Public Debt.	Kenya Colony.				Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours.				
				Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Total.	Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Total.			
1921	£ 754,614	£ 4,245,386	£ 5,000,000	£ 45,277	£ 9,810	£ 55,087	£ 254,723	£ 55,190	£ 309,913	£ 365,000		
1927	—	5,000,000	5,000,000	—	—	—	250,000	50,000	300,000	300,000		
1928	659,669	2,840,331	3,500,000	29,685	6,596	36,281	127,815	28,404	156,219	192,500		
1930	2,233,909	1,166,091	3,400,000	100,526	22,339*	122,865	52,474	11,661*	64,135	187,000		
Total	3,648,192	13,251,808	16,900,000	175,488	38,745	214,233	685,012	145,255	830,267	1,044,500		

* Contributions to the Sinking Fund in respect of the 1930 Loan commence in July, 1934.

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE COLONY AND
PROTECTORATE OF KENYA ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1931.**

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
	£	s. cts.		£	s. cts.
Deposits (Miscellaneous)	524,182	14 56	Investments ...	263,747	8 43
£277,744 14s. 70 cts.)			Advances ...	313,643	10 62
Drafts ...	5,216	5 32	Suspense (Turkana Tax).	692	7 00
Loan funds, unspent balances.	976,364	13 30	Unallocated stores	68,440	8 46
Excess of assets over liabilities.*	361,542	18 74	Loans to local bodies.	8,097	11 07
			Cash ...	1,212,685	6 34
	£1,867,306	11 92		£1,867,306	11 92

Main Heads of Taxation and the Yield of each.

1931.

	£
Customs Revenue ...	698,571
Hut and Poll Tax (Native)	530,877
Non-Native Poll Tax	42,571
Petrol Tax ...	27,260
Estate Duty ...	34,680
Wines and Spirits Consumption Tax	17,114†
European Education Tax	11,399
Asiatic Education Tax ...	14,481
	£1,376,953

Customs Tariff.

Amendments to the Customs Tariff in 1931 included increases in the rates of duty imposed on imported vehicles and parts, tea, ale and beer, sports requisites, and lubricating oils and greases. Additional suspended duties were applied to wheat and wheat flour, and a suspended duty imposed on rice.

* Earmarked as follows :—

	£
Working balance...	37,799
Unallocated stores	68,440
C.S. Housing Scheme	29,200
Loans to local authorities	2,427
Central Agricultural Advances Board	95,034
Loan to grain industry	116,020
Famine relief measures	12,622
	£361,542

† The Wines and Spirits Consumption Tax was incorporated in the Customs Tariff with effect from 16th June, 1931.

Stamp Duties.

The Colony's stamp duties are laid down in Chapter 57 of the Laws of Kenya and follow very closely upon the system in force in Great Britain. The principal documents subject to stamp duty are Mortgage Deeds, Bills of Sale, Policies of Insurance, Conveyances, Assignments, and Bills of Exchange.

During the year 1931 the revenue derived from this source amounted to £49,904.

Native Hut and Poll Tax.

Rate.—The rates of hut and poll tax imposed by Proclamation under Section 6 of Chapter 51 of the revised edition of the Laws of Kenya (The Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance) are as follows :—

Masai	...	...	Shs. 20/00 per Hut or Poll.
Other Tribes	...	...	Shs. 12/00 per Hut or Poll.

Section 3 of the Northern Frontier Poll Tax Ordinance (No. 53 of 1930) empowers the Governor to order that the poll tax prescribed under Section 4 shall be paid by the tribesmen of any tribe which is ordinarily resident in the Northern Frontier Province.

A Proclamation dated 12th February orders the payment of the prescribed tax by tribesmen of the following tribes ordinarily resident in the Northern Frontier Province : Somali, Galla, Samburu, Ndorobo, Rendille, and Turkana. A Proclamation dated 27th April, 1931, fixes the rate of the poll tax payable at Shs. 10/- per annum. Natives in the Turkana Province and Dorobo pay hut or poll tax at the rate of Shs. 10/- and Shs. 6/- per annum respectively.

Yield.—The yield of native hut and poll tax in 1931 amounted to £530,877.

Method of Assessment.

Hut Tax.—A uniform tax at the prescribed rate is paid on each hut (dwelling house) owned by the taxpayer.

Poll Tax.—A poll tax at the prescribed rate is payable by all able-bodied male natives of the apparent age of 16 years or over who do not pay the hut tax.

Collection.—Hut and poll tax is collected by District Officers. The taxpayer is given a receipt in the form of a hut or poll tax ticket for each tax paid. At the same time the payment is noted in the register of taxpayers.



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS FOR 1931.

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS COLONY.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

The Colony of the Leeward Islands, with a total area of 704 square miles, consists of a number of islands belonging partly to the chain of the Lesser Antilles, of which the group forms the northern end, and partly (the Virgin Islands group) to the eastern extremity of the Greater Antilles. The islands of Antigua, Barbuda, St. Christopher (St. Kitts), Nevis, and Montserrat form a fairly compact group between the 61st and 63rd degrees of West longitude and around the 17th degree of North latitude : but Dominica lies about 100 miles to the south, separated by the French island of Guadeloupe from the rest of the Colony, while Anguilla, Sombbrero, and still more the Virgin group (Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, and many small islands) lie apart to the north and north-west.

St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, and Dominica form part of the volcanic chain of the Lesser Antilles, whilst Antigua and Barbuda form part of the eastern sedimentary series of the same chain.

GOVERNMENT.

Politically, the Colony is divided into five Presidencies, Antigua (with Barbuda and Redonda), St. Christopher and Nevis (with Anguilla), Dominica, Montserrat, and the Virgin Islands. These have been united and separated at various times in their history, and were finally federated in 1871 by Imperial Act 34 and 35 Vict., cap. 107. Sombbrero was added to the Colony (being attached to the Virgin Islands Presidency) by Order in Council under the Colonial Boundaries Act on 10th August, 1904.

The Colony possesses Federal Executive and Legislative Councils, the members of the former and the official members (ten in number) of the latter being appointed, while the unofficial members of the Legislative Council (three each from Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis, two from Dominica, and one from Montserrat) are elected from amongst the nominated unofficial members of the legislatures of their respective Presidencies. There is also a nominated unofficial member for the Virgin Islands on the General Legislative Council.

FINANCE.

The following table shows the local revenue and expenditure of the various Presidencies of the Colony for the four financial years 1927-28 to 1930-31, and for the financial period 1st April to 31st December, 1931.

REVENUE.

	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931. Apr.-Decr.
	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua ...	93,436	97,903	84,236	73,730	50,936
St. Kitts-Nevis ...	94,161	101,567	102,013	90,610	58,331
Dominica ...	60,315	67,946	70,674	63,440	45,535
Montserrat ...	22,426	30,330	27,389	25,176	13,434
Virgin Islands ...	9,734	9,120	6,787	5,707	4,048
	<u>£280,072</u>	<u>306,866</u>	<u>291,099</u>	<u>258,663</u>	<u>172,234</u>

EXPENDITURE.

	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931. Apr.-Decr.
	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua ...	83,149	101,331	94,146	91,351	66,416
St. Kitts-Nevis ...	93,113	104,692	100,365	97,660	71,476
Dominica ...	80,715	80,517	92,426	71,177	54,112
Montserrat ...	19,986	32,278	31,007	28,805	21,758
Virgin Islands ...	7,240	9,487	6,871	7,027	5,296
	<u>£284,203</u>	<u>328,305</u>	<u>324,815</u>	<u>296,020</u>	<u>219,060</u>

COMMERCE.

IMPORTS.

The total value of the imports into the Leeward Islands during the year 1931 amounted to £619,104 as shown below :—

	Antigua.	St. Kitts- Nevis.	Dominica.	Mont- serrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	57,019	85,175	55,860	10,886	1,568	210,508
Canada ...	31,501	56,380	35,228	15,476	358	138,943
Other British Possessions.	20,438	26,846	37,451	10,983	562	96,280
United States of America.	43,146	48,552	30,776	6,539	3,571	132,584
Other Foreign Countries.	3,152	24,353	8,484	1,892	2,908	40,789
Totals...	<u>£155,256</u>	<u>241,306</u>	<u>167,799</u>	<u>45,776</u>	<u>8,967</u>	<u>619,104</u>

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports from the Leeward Islands during the year 1931 amounted to £286,242, as shown below :—

	<i>Antigua.</i>	<i>St. Kitts- Nevis.</i>	<i>Dominica.</i>	<i>Mont- serrat.</i>	<i>Virgin Islands.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	7,616	38,409	15,897	20,257	11	81,990
Canada	34,346	87,007	3,257	3,950	—	128,560
Other British Possessions.	2,508	12,571	5,726	4,259	346	25,410
United States of America.	1,022	218	26,419	5,428	70	33,157
Other Foreign Countries.	—	1,594	7,724	12	7,795	17,125
Totals... ..	£45,492	139,799	58,823	33,906	8,222	286,242

The principal exports of the Colony during 1931 were as follows :—

	<i>Antigua.</i>	<i>St. Kitts- Nevis.</i>	<i>Dominica.</i>	<i>Montserrat.</i>	<i>Virgin Islands.</i>	
Animals—						
Cattle, No.	1	311	—	263	1,136
Goats, No.	—	58	—	9	2,281
Mules, No.	12	147	—	1	48
Cocoa (raw), lb....	...	—	—	218,773	100	—
Mangoes, boxes	—	200	4,006	—	—
Oranges, barrels	—	—	664	—	—
Oranges, boxes	—	—	2,550	—	—
Grapefruit, boxes	—	—	1,531	—	—
Coco-nuts, No.	—	43,900	50,355	—	9,560
Limes, green, barrels	...	51	—	10,867	292	30
Limes, boxes	—	—	343	—	—
Lime Juice (raw), gal.	...	—	—	93,255	22,840	—
Lime Juice, concentrated, gal.	...	—	—	3,211	—	—
Lime Oil, lb.	432	—	—	—	—
Salt, barrels	—	2,316	—	—	15
Cotton Seed Oil, gal.	9,489	—	—	5,616	—
Sugar, tons	3,704	10,576	—	—	—
Molasses, gal.	30,000	—	—	—	—
Molasses (muscovado)	5,880	589,690	—	—	—
Tobacco, lb.	—	—	4,886	—	—
Cigars, No.	—	—	1,394	—	—
Tomatoes (20 lb. crates)	...	365	7,595	—	16,966	—
Vegetables (other), £	—	1,098	129	134	1,019
Charcoal, £	—	143	1	—	976
Cotton (raw), lb.	131,700	245,511	—	457,898	—
Cotton seed, tons	60	388	—	263	—
Hides and skins, £	116	357	—	140	32
Turtle shell, £	30	110	291	52	5
Oils—						
Bay leaf, lb.	—	—	17,783	252	—
Distilled lime, lb.	—	—	14,446	10	—
Essenced lime, lb.	—	—	2,158	54	—
In solution, lb.	—	—	783	—	—
Orange, lb.	—	—	830	—	—

ANTIGUA.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Presidency of Antigua consists of the three islands of Antigua, Barbuda, and Redonda, the two former being the emergent portions of a bank which, it has been supposed, represents a former atoll uplifted at the south-west (the mountainous district of Antigua, where the igneous base of the bank is exposed), while Redonda is an uninhabited "skerry," 1,000 ft. in height, rising from deep water between the islands of Montserrat and Nevis.

The island of Antigua was discovered by Columbus in 1493 and named by him after a church in Seville called Sta. Maria La Antigua. It was settled by a few English from St. Kitts in 1632.

Antigua is about 107 square miles in area and is roughly oval in shape, the coast being however indented by extensive creeks and bays: there are numerous outlying islets and rocks, the largest of these being Guiana Island, about 3 miles long and separated from the main island by a channel only a few yards in width.

There are no forests and no rivers, the island's water-supply being derived from reservoirs amongst the south-west mountains, and from wells which tap underground streams from the same mountains. Droughts are frequent, and, owing to the generally clayey nature of the soil, make the ground so hard that tillage is very difficult while they last.

Barbuda (administered by a Warden) is a flat island chiefly covered by scrub, some 30 miles N.N.E. of Antigua, with which it has communication by small sailing vessels. It has no streams, water being derived from brackish wells. Owing to its lowness, it cannot be seen at any considerable distance from ships, and numerous wrecks have occurred on its shores. A striking feature of Barbuda is the great landlocked lagoon on the western (leeward) side.

Redonda, which was formerly attached to Montserrat, is merely a waterless rock, but at one time over a hundred men were employed there mining phosphates.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Antigua is the seat of the Government of the Colony of the Leeward Islands. The local Government is administered by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council which consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General of the Leeward Islands, and of such persons as may be appointed, from time to time, under the Royal Instructions of 5th May, 1904. In the absence of the Governor from the Presidency the Government is administered by the Colonial Secretary as Administrator.

The Council consists of sixteen members, eight official, and eight non-official, all nominated by the Governor under the Royal Letters Patent. The Governor presides at all meetings of the Council. By Ordinance No. 7 of 1910, the duration of the Council is limited to three years.

III.—POPULATION.

The estimated population of Antigua on 31st December, 1931, was 31,235, as compared with 30,909 on 31st December of the previous year.

The births registered were 880 (Antigua 842, Barbuda 38); the birth-rate was therefore 28·17 per 1,000.

The male births were 431 and the female births 449; the females thus outnumbering the males by 18.

The deaths registered were 712 (Antigua 698, Barbuda 14); the death-rate was therefore 22·79 per 1,000.

The deaths of children under one year (exclusive of still-births) were 154 or 21·62 of the total.

During the year under review 1,494 persons arrived in the island and the departures from the island amounted to 1,336.

In view of the financial condition of the Presidency the census which was to have been taken during the year was postponed.

IV.—HEALTH.

Water-supply.—The rainfall was good and general during the months from May to December, and the reservoirs have been full. There was no anxiety in regard to the water-supply during the latter half of the year.

Child welfare.—The good work done by the Superintendent of Midwives continued throughout the year.

One creche and one dispensary were erected at Bolans.

Collection and removal of excreta.—The number of septic tanks in the city is now 59.

The villages are being equipped with adequate latrine accommodation.

Public health.—There has been no serious epidemic during the year, except the usual influenza and dysentery.

There was a sudden and small epidemic of anteriopoliomyelitis. There were six cases in St. John's and fourteen in the country. It was impossible to trace the origin of this epidemic.

Enteritis and Bacillary Dysentery.—These are the chief causes of death amongst infants and children.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—This is a most important cause of death in the tropics. This year showed a great improvement over 1930. There were only 18 deaths in 1931 as compared with 28 deaths in 1930.

Legislation.—The financial position of the Colony will not permit any further elaboration of the social services for sanitation at the

present time, and as there is little likelihood of any material improvement of those circumstances in the near future, all legislation in connexion therewith involving fresh commitments will have to be deferred until happier times.

Laboratory.—A laboratory has been erected in the grounds of the Holberton Hospital and is well equipped for bacteriological and clinical pathological work. It began to function on 23rd April, 1931. The value of the laboratory has been clearly demonstrated and it is considered essential that its work should continue on the departure of the Health Officer on the termination of his contract in the summer of 1933.

In the comparatively few months during which the laboratory was functioning 425 examinations were carried out. These were of a varied nature and included blood counts and differential leucocyte counts, blood slide examinations for malaria, micro-filariae, sickle cell anaemia, etc., blood and urine culture, Widal's test and Kahn's test of blood sera, examination of material for leprosy and tubercle bacilli, examination of faeces and urine for ova, etc.

Venereal Clinic.—A venereal disease clinic was opened at the hospital (which is over a mile away from the town) on 7th May, 1931, and has been well attended. The treatment of gonorrhoea was commenced but given up owing to the difficulty in getting patients to attend regularly at a hospital so far from town. For this reason the clinic has been removed to a reconverted Government building in the centre of the town.

Yaws.—Yaws is almost entirely confined to the south-west volcanic district of the island. For the past year a vigorous campaign has been directed towards controlling this disease. The district nurses, the clergy, the school teachers, and the police are collaborating by looking out for cases and collecting them for diagnosis and treatment by the District Medical Officers concerned.

Child Welfare.—Child welfare was a bright spot in the medical administration of the island; a very fair system of antenatal care and the following up of children born during the last four or five years has been controlled by the Superintendent of Midwives, who was also responsible for the supervision of the work of the district midwives, which had gradually been extended until the duties included those of a district nurse responsible to District Medical Officers for the care of the sick. A creche, partly supported by Government funds, has also been established at St. John's.

A serious blow to this system has been given by the retrenchment of the Superintendent of Midwives owing to the state of the island's finances. The work is now carried out by District Medical Officers to the best of their ability, and the only real activities are in the creches.

In addition to that in St. John's, three creches have been opened in All Saints, Bolans, and Cedar Grove, respectively. Each, however, has accommodation for only twelve infants, and the fringe of

the problem only is touched. They do, however, act as very valuable centres for propaganda. They are controlled very largely by the Health Officer as it is difficult to get local residents to take any effective interest in their management. Scattered as they are over the island, they become a tax upon the time of the Health Officer which might be spent more effectively in other directions.

General sanitation.—The work of the Sanitary Inspectors has improved out of recognition. Even with the additional Inspectors provided from the Colonial Development Fund the areas covered by each Inspector are much too large. There is a danger that when assistance from the Colonial Development Fund is no longer available there may be a relapse to the deplorable conditions of two years and more ago when there was a deficiency of Inspectors and a complete lack of their supervision. It has not been found possible to get a Chief Sanitary Inspector for the funds available, and all supervision is being done at present by the Health Officer.

Water-supplies.—The state of the water-supplies leaves much to be desired. The catchment area of the bulk of the supply is, for Antigua, highly populated. It is not protected. The only purification which the water undergoes is by slow passage through the dams en route to the "sump" from which it is pumped to the service reservoirs. The city supply, however, is passed through fairly efficient sand filter beds before distribution. Proposals for dealing with the water-supplies have been put forward, and it is hoped that Colonial Development funds will be made available to give effect to the recommendations. Nothing would have a more far-reaching effect on the health of the people.

Education.—The education of children on health matters has been put on a sound basis. The Health Officer lectured to the school teachers during the Christmas holidays of 1930–31 on the lines on which he wished them to teach the children. This work has been carried out quite well as a whole, and the children seem to take an interest in the subject.

Mr. Howell, the School Dental Officer, has visited every school in the island twice during the year, and in addition to doing necessary extractions and fillings has lectured to the children on dental hygiene. It is certain that his activities have been of the greatest value to the community.

V.—HOUSING.

In December, 1929, in response to a special application from His Excellency the Governor the Colonial Development Advisory Committee recommended a free grant of £6,500 and a loan of a similar amount, free of interest for five years, to the Government of Antigua, for the construction of concrete houses for the peasantry.

A housing committee was immediately appointed of which His Excellency became chairman and rules were made under Antigua Ordinance No. 5 of 1930—The Housing Ordinance, 1930—regarding :—

- (1) The erection, alteration, and repair of houses ; and
- (2) The terms and conditions on which houses may be occupied, sold, or otherwise dealt with.

Two specimen concrete houses with verandahs, out-houses, etc., were built at St. Johnston's village by May, 1930, before His Excellency the Governor went on leave, and in June, 1930, the housing committee decided that the houses should have steel frames for additional strength.

Altogether 67 houses have now been allotted to approved applicants at 10s. a month on the hire-purchase system, many of them being allotted to peasants holding land under the Land Settlement Scheme, and others to carpenters, masons, plumbers, and factory and other workers.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The two main industries in Antigua are sugar and sea island cotton, and these are the only industries for which actual production figures are available.

There are two factories manufacturing grey crystals, the Antigua Sugar Factory at Gunthorpes and the Bendals Factory. In both cases the bulk of the cane is supplied by contracting plantations, although there is a considerable and increasing production on the part of peasant proprietors.

There is one factory producing muscovado and one fancy molasses. Both these factories are run in connexion with the plantations on which they are situated.

There is one cotton ginnery in Antigua : this deals both with cotton grown on estates and cotton grown by peasants, which latter forms a considerable portion of the total crop. Estate cotton is ginned and baled at the expense of the owner and shipped on his behalf ; peasants' cotton is purchased at the ginnery on a co-operative basis, the peasant being paid a first payment based on the United Kingdom market price and receiving as a bonus 75 per cent. of any profits made on the sale of the cotton by the ginnery.

Sugar.—The rainfall during 1930 was the lowest experienced during the period for which rainfall records have been kept, i.e., since 1874, the average for the whole island being only 25·51 inches. As a result the sugar crop reaped in 1931 was very small, the total production being :—grey crystals, 4,977 tons, muscovado sugar 69,500 lbs., and fancy molasses or cane syrup 13,230 gallons.

Cotton.—The 1931 cotton crop was reaped from approximately 1,500 acres. The severe drought in 1930 and during the early months

of 1931 together with damage from the cotton caterpillar seriously affected the yield. The total production was 416 bales of clean lint (124,842 lb.) and 8 bales of stains (2,458 lb.).

Limes.—The lime crop suffered severely from the drought in 1930 and early in 1931, but towards the end of the year the condition of the trees showed considerable improvement.

During recent years the area under limes has gradually increased, but it will be some years before the newly planted trees come into bearing.

Vegetables.—An attempt has been made to establish a co-operative vegetable industry, primarily for export to the Canadian winter market.

Sweet potatoes, yams, eddoes, and cassava are the chief vegetable foods of the working classes, and are grown on a considerable scale, but no production figures are available. These provision crops are cultivated both on estates and by peasants.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the imports and exports of the Presidency of Antigua during the last three years :—

			1929.	1930.	1931.
			£	£	£
Imports	...	...	214,978	184,203	155,256
Exports	...	...	139,249	185,381	46,576

It will be seen that there has been a marked decrease in the imports and exports during the year 1931.

Of the total imports of £155,256 during 1931, £57,019 were from the United Kingdom as compared with £55,801 in 1930 ; £31,501 from Canada as against £44,047 in 1930 ; and £43,146 from the United States of America as against £54,473 in the previous year.

The principal importations were as follows :—

				1930.	1931.
				£	£
Flour	...	...	...	19,865	16,260
Cornmeal	...	...	...	13,541	10,138
Dried fish	...	...	...	6,260	3,817
Cotton goods	...	...	...	11,916	10,696
Pitch pine lumber	...	...	...	5,557	1,007
White pine lumber	...	...	...	4,490	2,945
Machinery	...	...	...	4,021	8,692
Hardware	...	...	...	2,659	4,659

The domestic exports for 1931 amounted to £45,492 and were as follows :—

	To	£
United Kingdom	7,616
Canada	34,346
Bermuda	345
United States of America	1,022
British West Indies	59
Leeward Islands	2,104
		<hr/>
		£45,492
		<hr/>

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The following are the average rates of wages of estate labourers and Government employees :—

Men, 1s. to 1s. 2d. a day.
 Women, 6d. to 8d. a day.
 Carpenters, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. a day.
 Masons, 3s. 3d. to 4s. a day.
 Headmen, 10s. to 14s. a week.
 Ploughmen, 1s. 6d. a day.
 Plough Drivers, 1s. 4d. a day.

The following wages are paid to workmen at the Antigua Sugar Factory, Limited :—

Engine Drivers, 2s. to 2s. 4d. a day.
 Firemen, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. a day.
 Blacksmiths, 3s. a day.

Under the Medical and Poor Relief Ordinance every estate of 50 acres and over is compelled to provide free medical attendance for its resident labourers. Labourers on estates also receive certain privileges, such as houses and plots of land.

The cost of living for officials, etc., has dropped slightly in recent years, but is still high when compared with the cost of living during pre-war days. A higher standard of living is being maintained which adds to the cost of living.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Elementary Education.*—For the great majority of children there are 20 Government schools and two denominational schools receiving Government aid. In addition there are six private schools run either by religious bodies or by private individuals for children varying in ages from 5 to 9 years.

The training of teachers for the primary schools is arranged and paid for by the Government, and rules governing the conduct of

schools, and the syllabus of instruction, are laid down in a Code of Regulations made by the Governor in Council.

A system of compulsory education enforces attendance at school, and though not carried out in its entirety, is responsible for keeping about 60 per cent. of the numbers enrolled in attendance at the schools.

(b) *Secondary Education*.—This branch is carried on by private enterprise receiving Government grants-in-aid. There are three such schools, the Antigua Grammar School, the Girls' High School and the Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial School. These schools prepare candidates for the Local Examinations of the University of Cambridge with a Leeward Islands scholarship competed for annually. The scholarship is a Government one of the annual value of £200 tenable for three years, and may be extended to five years in consideration of the profession being taken.

The Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, under Moravian auspices, trains women teachers for the primary schools. The candidates are selected from the schools where they serve an apprenticeship for at least three years as pupil teachers, and are given a two years' course at the College. On graduation they receive appointments as assistant teachers and by zeal and fidelity the ablest among them are promoted to head teacherships. Male teachers are trained at the Rawle Training Institute, Codrington College, Barbados.

(c) *Technical Education*.—No real start along definite lines has as yet been made in connexion with technical education, but certain head teachers in primary schools, on their own initiative and with the help of the Education Department, are conducting classes in manual instruction and domestic science with a degree of success.

(d) *University Education*.—An educational ladder so far has been established in that a boy or girl may, by means of a Government scholarship, pass from the elementary schools through the secondary schools to a university.

(e) *Evening Classes*.—An attempt has been made by Toc H to open an evening class to help young men who failed to use their earlier opportunities or who had none at all, as well as to further the education of those who are debarred from doing so through lack of means.

The Government has placed at the disposal of Toc H one of its school buildings, and provides the lighting and certain appliances.

SOCIAL SERVICES.

(a) Creches have been established in the city of St. John's, and in several of the country villages, where mothers may leave their young children to be fed and taken care of during the day while they are away at their work.

(b) There are several lodges and friendly societies in the island whose object is to raise funds by means of subscriptions, etc., so as to be able to care for their members during sickness and old age and to bury their dead. Prominent among these lodges are branches of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows.

Freemasonry is also represented by two lodges of that Order.

Relief in the event of accident or sickness can be obtained locally by securing policies in certain insurance companies operating in the island.

RECREATION, ETC.

The public park adjoining the eastern part of the city furnishes means of recreation for children and adults. Various cricket clubs have their grounds, and there are several lawn tennis clubs. There is a golf course at Cassada Garden about two miles east of St. John's. Fishing is possible and fairly well patronized in several places off the coast.

The love of music, art, and drama is pronounced and is evidenced in the good attendance obtainable at entertainments when the best talent is on exhibition.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The island of Antigua is a port of call of the Canadian National Steamships, Limited, subsidized by the Canadian Government and the several Colonial Governments which are parties to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, 1925. The island is also visited by steamers of the Furness, Bermuda, Ocean, Dominion, and Western Ocean lines, and by cargo steamers of the Canadian National Steamships. A passenger and cargo steamer of the Harrison Line proceeds regularly from London every four weeks direct to Antigua, and these ships call sometimes on the return journey to London.

St. John's, Antigua, is an airport, served by Pan American Airways, Inc.

Sailing vessels proceed frequently between Antigua and Montserrat, and between Antigua and Barbuda.

Mails to and from Europe are sent via the United States of America or Barbados, save when there is a direct steamer to or from England. Parcels are only dealt with at the shipping ports.

Imperial postal orders are issued and paid in the island, and money orders are exchanged direct with Great Britain, Canada, the United States of America, British West Indies, Bermuda, and British Guiana.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by means of wireless and cable. The wireless station in Antigua is owned by Imperial and International Communications, Limited.

There are about 120 miles of roads in Antigua, maintained by the Government. There are no railways in the island for the conveyance of passengers, but there are two railways operated by the Antigua Sugar Factory, Limited, and the Bendals Sugar Factory, Limited, for the conveyance of canes and sugar to and from those factories.

Three omnibuses are maintained by Mr. Jose Anjo, and these run, according to schedule, to Fort James—the Lido of the West Indies—and to the principal towns and villages in the country districts.

There are 18 sub-post offices in the Presidency and three telephone exchanges, viz., at St. John's, Parham, and All Saints.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) formerly the Colonial Bank, and the Royal Bank of Canada have branches at St. John's, Antigua.

They each had a \$5.00 note issue of approximately \$50,000 in circulation in 1931.

Both Banks have Savings Departments, and each pays 3 per cent. interest on deposits.

The usual rate of interest charged by Banks on overdrafts is 8 per cent. compound.

Government Savings Bank.—There is a Government Savings Bank in St. John's, Antigua. The following is a comparative statement of transactions for the past three years :—

Year.	Amount of deposits during the year.			Amount of withdrawals during the year.			Number of depositors at end of year.	Rate of interest paid per annum.	Amount standing to credit of depositors.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		per cent.	£	s.	d.
1929-30 ...	4,928	18	8	5,567	8	4	670	3	18,581	1	11
1930-31 ...	3,686	3	0	5,805	15	1	640	3	16,461	9	10
Apr.-Dec. 1931 ...	1,040	13	2	1,071	6	4	640	3	15,341	6	6

CURRENCY.

All coins of the United Kingdom are used as currency at face value. By an Order in Council issued in 1898, the Imperial Coinage Act was applied to the Colony of the Leeward Islands, and fixed the amounts for legal tender as follows :—

- (1) In the case of gold coins for the payment of any amount.
- (2) In the case of silver coins for the payment of an amount not exceeding forty shillings.
- (3) In the case of bronze coins for a payment of an amount not exceeding one shilling, but for no greater amount.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Presidency.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The staff of this Department consists of a Superintendent of Public Works, two Overseers of Roads, a Clerk, and a Storekeeper, besides subordinate employees.

The department is responsible for the construction, maintenance and improvement of public buildings, roads, and water-works. Owing to the general financial depression, public works in 1931, with the exception of those under the Colonial Development Schemes, consisted of ordinary maintenance and repair work.

In addition to the above staff a Public Works Engineer and a Land Surveyor are employed with funds provided for Colonial Development Schemes.

The following Colonial Development Schemes are being undertaken :—

The construction of concrete houses for the peasantry of Antigua ;

The laying of concrete drains in the country villages ;

The erection of creches and dispensaries in various country villages, etc.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.**JUSTICE.**

The Presidency is the headquarters of the Chief Justice of the Colony and forms one circuit of the Supreme Court, sessions of which are held three times a year.

There is one magistrate in Antigua (holding courts at St. John's, Bolans, All Saints, and Parham), while the Warden of Barbuda is magistrate for that island.

POLICE.

The police are under the command of the Chief Inspector for the Colony, whose headquarters are at St. John's and under whom is a Sub-Inspector permanently stationed in the Presidency. There are police stations at St. John's and the principal villages, and a constable is stationed in Barbuda.

PRISONS.

The Antigua prison is the central prison for the Colony to which are sent offenders sentenced in the other Presidencies to long terms of imprisonment. 204 prisoners (146 males and 58 females) were admitted during the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1931.

The accommodation of the prison is as follows :—

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Separate cells	... ..	72	20
Association cells	... ..	7 to hold 35	3 to hold 9
Infirmary ward	... ..	1 to hold 9	1 to hold 3

Toc H have continued with their efforts to help the more illiterate prisoners and three of their members take classes.

Every encouragement is given to prisoners to practise their trades, and to learn such trades as carpentering, tin-smithing, baking, tailoring, and bootmaking, as well as gardening and painting.

St. John's Training School.—There is a reformatory known as the St. John's Training School, to which boys from all the Presidencies are sent.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is a list of the Ordinances passed in Antigua during the year 1931 :—

<i>No.</i>	<i>Short Title.</i>
1.	The Cotton Planting (Regulation) Ordinance, 1931.
2.	The Motor Vehicles Plying for Hire Ordinance, 1928, Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
3.	The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.
4.	The Constitution Ordinance, 1910, Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
5.	The Marriages (Validating) Ordinance, 1931.
6.	The Cinematographs (General Legislature Competency) Ordinance, 1931.
7.	The Denominational School Teachers Pension Ordinance, 1931.
8.	The Motor Vehicle Ordinance, 1931.
9.	The Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.
10.	The Animal Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.

The following is a list of the Rules and Regulations made during the year 1931 :—

- The Housing Rules, 1931.
- The Dockyard Charges Amendment Order, 1931.
- The Fort James (Season Tickets) Regulations, 1931.
- The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1926 (Application) Order, 1931.
- The Fort James (Season Tickets) (No. 2) Regulations, 1931.
- The Quarantine Station Regulations, 1931.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The financial period 1st April to 31st December, 1931, opened with an accumulated deficit of £11,464.

The actual ordinary revenue for the nine months ending 31st December, 1931, was £50,936, being £6,080 below the estimate, and the actual ordinary expenditure was £66,416, being £758 in excess of the estimate.

The deficit for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1931, was £15,480.

During the 9 months ending 31st December, 1931, His Majesty's Government provided £6,000 in aid of administration, £12,000 for relief of unemployed, and £18,185 for financing schemes approved by the Colonial Development Advisory Committee. Expenditure on relief amounted to £11,626, and on Colonial Development Schemes to £11,873 at 31st December, 1931.

DEBT.

The public debt at 31st December, 1931, was £145,000. No new loans were raised during the period. The accumulated sinking funds amounted to £100,997 12s. 9d.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

During the period 1st April to 31st December, 1931, the following amendments were made in the rates of Customs duties on the articles specified :—

	<i>Full duty.</i>	<i>Preferential.</i>
Item 66. Oils—		
(g) Motor spirit including benzine, gasolene, naphtha, and petrol spirits generally.	Increased from 4d. per gal. to 7d. per gal.	Increased from 2d. per gal. to 5d. per gal.
Item 87. Sugar—		
(a) Refined	Increased from 4s. per 100 lb. to 8s. 4d. per 100 lb.	Unchanged at 2s. per 100 lb.
(b) Unrefined	Increased from 3s. per 100 lb. to 8s. 4d. per 100 lb.	Unchanged at 1s. 6d. per 100 lb.
Item 89. Tobacco and Snuff—	<i>Per lb. from</i>	<i>Per lb. from</i>
(b) Cigars if over 6s. per 100 in value.	7s. 6d. to 10s.	5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.
Under 6s. per 100 ...	4s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.	3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.
(c) Cigarettes	6s. to 8s. 4d.	4s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.
(d) Snuff	6s. to 8s. 4d.	4s. to 6s. 3d.
(e) Other manufactuerd...	6s. to 7s. 6d.	4s. to 5s.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.**I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.**

The Presidency of Saint Christopher and Nevis ("St. Kitts-Nevis") consists of the two volcanic islands of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis, and the limestone island of Anguilla. The capital of the Presidency is Basseterre in St. Kitts, latitude $17^{\circ} 18' N$. and longitude $62^{\circ} 43' W$. The mountain axis of St. Kitts and Nevis runs N.W.—S.E., the former being the more northerly and, except for the small Dutch islands of St. Eustatius and Saba, the northern termination of the partly submerged volcanic mountain range of the Lesser Antilles. Anguilla, running N.E.—S.W., lies some 70 miles N.N.E. of St. Kitts and forms part, with St. Martin and St. Bartholomew, of a separate island-group.

The two volcanic islands are mountainous (Mt. Misery, St. Kitts, 3,711 feet; Nevis Peak, about 3,596 feet) and the upper slopes are covered with dense forest, tree ferns, and palms. The low lands are cultivated or in pasture. The highest point of Anguilla is only 213 feet above the sea. The island is generally low-lying, and is covered by low-growing scrub, except where the land is cultivated for cotton or ground provisions.

The total area of the three islands is 152 square miles. St. Kitts measures 68 square miles; Nevis 50 square miles; and Anguilla 34 square miles.

St. Kitts and Nevis were discovered by Columbus in 1493, and an English settlement (the first in the West Indies), was established in the former in 1623, whence the latter was colonized in 1628. A French settlement was established in St. Kitts about 1625, and, after the two nations had combined to expel the Carib Indians (1629) the island was divided, the French taking the two ends, which have since been known as Basseterre and Capisterre. There was frequent warfare between the French and English in St. Kitts, the great siege of Brimstone Hill, "The Gibraltar of the West Indies," occurring in 1782. The islands have been uninterruptedly British since 1783, the last French invasion occurring, however, in 1805. Two great names are associated with Nevis, Alexander Hamilton, the founder of the American Constitution, who was born there, and Admiral Lord Nelson, whose marriage took place there in 1787.

The date of discovery of Anguilla is uncertain. It has remained British since its colonization, about 1650, although invaded at times by the French and Caribs. The language of the whole Presidency is English.

The climate, for a tropical one, is decidedly healthy. The highest temperature in the shade is about 88° , the lowest 66° , and the mean average about 76° .

The average rainfall in St. Kitts for the year 1931 was 57.60 inches.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is administered by an Administrator who is subordinate to the Governor of the Leeward Islands Colony.

He is advised by an Executive Council consisting of certain *ex officio* members and such other persons as His Majesty may from time to time appoint. Both the Governor and the Administrator are *ex officio* members.

There is a Legislative Council consisting of seven official and seven nominated unofficial members, besides the Governor and Administrator. Of the unofficial members not more than six are from the people of St. Kitts and Anguilla, and one at least from the people of Nevis.

The Governor, or in his absence, the Administrator, or, in the absence of both of them, a member of the Council appointed in writing, presides, and the President of the Council has an original and a casting vote.

During the year Mr. T. C. Macnaghten, C.M.G., C.B.E., retired (4th April, 1931) and was succeeded by Mr. D. R. Stewart, C.M.G. (19th July, 1931), late Colonial Secretary, Barbados.

III.—POPULATION.

Population, St. Kitts	22,415	(census 1921)	329·6	p.s.m.
„ Nevis	11,569	„ „	231·4	„
„ Anguilla	4,230	„ „	124·4	„
	<hr/>			
	38,214			

There was no census taken in 1931 of the population of the Presidency; therefore only an estimated population based on the census of 1921 can be given.

The estimated population at the end of the year 1931 was, St. Kitts, 18,446; Nevis, 12,683; Anguilla, 4,938; making a total of 36,067 for the whole Presidency and showing an increase of 274 over the estimated population of the previous year.

So far as St. Kitts and Nevis are concerned, the estimate of population is fairly accurate, but there are no records of the emigration and immigration from and to Anguilla where the male population are frequently emigrating to other islands, especially Santo Domingo, in search of work, and many of whom return home in the “out of crop” season.

The population of these islands can be roughly divided into three classes—viz., those of pure European extraction numbering about three to four hundred, the educated coloured class numbering about 7,000, and the labouring class, white, coloured, and black about 28,583.

There are three small towns in the Presidency—Basseterre, St. Kitts, with a population of about 8,000; Sandy Point, St. Kitts,

with a population of about 1,200; and Charlestown, Nevis, with a population about the same as that of Sandy Point. These three small towns are situated on the sea-coast and are ports of call. There are numerous villages scattered along the main roads of the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis.

The increase of births over deaths during the past year amounted to 404 as compared with the increase of 213 during the year 1930, but emigration during the year was in excess of immigration by 126, while in 1930 the immigration showed an increase of 221 over emigration.

The births during the year 1930 and 1931 and the respective birth-rates were as follows:—

1930.

1931.

	<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Birth-rate per 1,000.</i>	<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Birth-rate per 1,000.</i>
St. Kitts ...	790	43·9	722	39·4
Nevis ...	327	25·9	323	25·4
Anguilla ...	146	30·4	131	26·9

While the deaths (exclusive of still-births) and death-rates were:—

1930.

1931.

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Death-rate per 1,000.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Death-rate per 1,000.</i>
St. Kitts ...	671	37·2	506	27·6
Nevis ...	296	24·2	217	17·1
Anguilla ...	84	17·5	49	10·0

These figures show a lower birth-rate as well as a lower death-rate for the year 1931.

The returns of the still-births in the three islands for the year are given and compared with those of 1930.

1930.

1931.

St. Kitts ...	61	64
Nevis ...	31	19
Anguilla ...	10	7

showing a decrease of 12 for the whole Presidency.

During the year 102 marriages were celebrated in St. Kitts, 40 in Nevis, and 49 in Anguilla.

Infant mortality considered as the number of deaths of infants under one year to every thousand of living births is shown below and compared with the three previous years.

		<i>No. of deaths under one year.</i>				<i>Rate per 1,000 of living births.</i>			
		1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
St. Kitts ...	...	259	153	147	134	308·3	200·2	186·0	185·5
Nevis ...	...	88	54	51	60	286·6	203·7	155·9	185·7
Anguilla ...	...	16	9	19	12	114·2	70·8	130·1	91·6
Total ...	...	363	216	217	206	280·3	158·0	171·8	175·1

It is gratifying to note the steady decrease which has taken place in St. Kitts where infant welfare work is practically entirely supported by a Government grant-in-aid of £375 a year, and is conducted through six creches in different parts of the island.

IV.—HEALTH.

On 21st November there arrived in the Colony to succeed Dr. P. Hope-Falkner, the late Public Health Officer provided at the expense of the Colonial Development Fund, Dr. E. P. Minett, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. and H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. He has lost no time in acquainting himself with local conditions, and writes as follows :—

“The scavenging of the town of Basseterre (St. Kitts) is exceptionally well done and a newcomer is immediately impressed with the cleanliness of the streets.

“The method of refuse disposal at present in use, consisting of dumps supplied by the neighbouring estates, is a good one for an agricultural country and I have carefully examined these dumps for evidence of extensive fly breeding without results.

“The surface drainage of the streets is exceptionally good where they have been graded and oiled; the newer concrete drains are of a good and modern pattern and very suitable for the type of road.

“As might be expected the scavenging of the villages is not to be compared with that of the towns, though in some villages it is distinctly good.

“Most of the villages are well placed as regards sites and drainage. In some cases they were obviously placed in ravines, because the land was unsuitable for cultivation, but this to my mind is not a drawback as these ravines provide excellent drainage for the land around the houses. There appears to be little attempt at any regular plan for the villages, but either by accident or design there is very little overcrowding of tenements. Usually the houses have plenty of space around them as compared with most tropical villages. Most of the villages are provided with a public water-supply and are fortunate in having a pipe-borne water-supply.

“The town of Charlestown, Nevis, was very well scavenged and had a clean and well-kept appearance. The town is too spread out to permit of much serious overcrowding of tenements. Two open spaces planted with trees and shrubs and provided with seats greatly improve the look of the town.

“Most of the villages of Nevis are very scattered in character, so that although the buildings themselves are badly in need of repair, there is very little overcrowding of tenements.

“The town enjoys a piped water-supply, and most of the villages are also provided with stand-pipes.

“The water-supply of St. Kitts is good, but that of Nevis and Anguilla is scanty especially in the dry season.”

The teaching of elementary hygiene in the schools has been done for some years past, and it is contemplated by the Medical Officer of Health to have occasional short lectures given in addition to the school teaching.

The more prevalent diseases met with are gastro-enteritis and framboesia (yaws) in children, and enteric fever, dysentery, syphilis, and filaria in adults, and in Nevis and Anguilla, malaria.

The cases of gastro-enteritis in children are chiefly due to faulty feeding by the mothers. Since the infant welfare movement was started and creches under the supervision of the District Matron were provided, infant mortality has steadily decreased from 409.6 per 1,000 living births in 1920 in St. Kitts to 185.5 in 1931.

The eradication of yaws by the use of various drugs and more especially in later years by injections with one form or another of the arseniates seems to be a probability in time to come.

With the improved sanitation of late years, enteric fever and dysentery—the two fly-borne diseases—have, on the whole, decreased though there were more cases recorded in 1931 than in 1930.

A great amount of work has been done in trying to cure those afflicted with syphilis, but in order to treat the greatest possible number of these cases some form of legislation may be necessary.

Filarial fever which was so prevalent in St. Kitts several years ago is evidently on the decrease. To prevent fresh cases arising, the filling up of swamps and puddles is essential. During 1931 an experiment was made by depositing bagasse, the residue of crushed sugar-cane after the juice has been extracted, on some swampy lands, the result going to show that the pools and puddles so treated contained no mosquito larvae. Further experiments will be carried on in 1932.

Malaria fever in Nevis, where the anopheles mosquito is found, is still very prevalent. In Anguilla the cases are among those labourers who have returned from Santo Domingo. The cases seen in St. Kitts, where there are no anopheles mosquitos at present to be found, are imported ones.

There are four District Medical Officers in St. Kitts, two in Nevis, and one in Anguilla. The Medical Officer of Health for the Presidency resides in St. Kitts.

In St. Kitts the Cunningham Hospital with 87 beds and 6 maternity beds is sufficient for the needs of the island. There is a small emergency hospital, Pogson Hospital, with 12 beds and 4 maternity beds in Sandy Point about eleven miles from Basseterre, and in the same district there is the leper home with 46 inmates at present. The Alexandra Hospital of Charlestown, Nevis, has between 30 and 40 beds, including 3 maternity beds, and in Anguilla there is a small cottage hospital of 8 beds which so far has never been full.

There are three European Sisters in the Presidency. Two are in charge of hospitals and the third is responsible for the training and supervision of midwives, and is in charge of the infant welfare of the island.

V.—HOUSING.

Most estates provide wooden houses which are rent free to their reliable labourers.

During the past two years 56 model concrete houses have been built for labourers and artisans at Basseterre and Sandy Point, with assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, £13,000 being made available for the purpose, one-half as a loan and one-half as a free grant.

These cottages consist of three rooms and an entrance verandah. The cost of each cottage including outbuildings and fences, but excluding land, is £122.

Those in Basseterre are sold on a rental basis of 10s. a month and those at Sandy Point at 11s. 2d. a month. In each case payments continue for a period of 15 years.

The larger residences and places of business in these islands are of two storeys, the lower one generally of stone, and the upper of wood. These buildings are provided with hurricane shutters as the islands are almost in the centre of the hurricane zone.

Every yard is under sanitary supervision and the sanitary laws are enforced.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Sugar.—The 1931 crop was seriously affected by the severe drought. The average rainfall of the island was 45.98 inches, nearly eight inches less than the average for the past seventeen years.

The sugar-cane production was 98,228 tons from 6,096 acres, as compared with 150,937 tons in 1930. The average yield per acre was 16 tons as against 22 tons in the previous year.

The output of the St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory was 12,021 tons of grey crystal sugar as compared with 18,680 tons in 1930. The value of the sugar was £114,332 and of the molasses produced £3,603. 10,579 tons of sugar were exported and the balance retained in the island for local consumption. The sugar was marketed at an average price of £9 10s. 2d. per ton, which was 16s. less than the price obtained in 1930.

In Nevis a small quantity of muscovado sugar was produced from peasants' canes for local consumption.

Cotton.—The area under this crop was greatly curtailed owing to unsatisfactory market conditions. Unfavourable weather and insect

pests reduced the output considerably. The quantities of lint produced in the Presidency are shown in the following table :—

			<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Lb. lint.</i>
St. Kitts...	...	...	1,170	129,894
Nevis ...	...	...	1,500	159,102
Anguilla ...	...	...	400	32,244
Totals			3,070	321,240

The production in 1930 was 699,000 lb. lint from approximately 5,000 acres. At the end of the year there was a large quantity of cotton in England unsold. 245,511 lb. of cotton were exported as against 778,761 lb. in 1930.

Vegetables.—Efforts to develop an export trade in green vegetables during the winter months were continued. The grading and packing of produce were carried out under Government supervision and the quantities exported are shown in the following table :—

	St. Kitts.		Nevis.	
	<i>Crates.</i>	<i>lb.</i>	<i>Crates.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
Tomatoes ...	4,525	91,146	1,293	25,860
String Beans ...	108	1,704	9	117
Egg Plants ...	12	240	122	3,103
Cucumbers ...	4	78	—	—
English Potatoes ...	169	8,450	—	—

The gross value of this produce was approximately £2,000, and the net value to the producer £1,000.

Live Stock.—The live stock industry of Nevis suffered a severe set back during the year. A large number of animals died during the prolonged drought of 1930 from lack of sufficient food, and prices for both “butcher” and “working” animals fell very low in 1931.

General.—The sugar-cane industry is carried on in St. Kitts by the employment of wage labourers on estates. There are no peasant farmers. There is only one central factory on the island—the St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory. All sugar-producing areas are connected to this factory by a narrow-gauge railway line encircling the island. The normal rated capacity of the factory is 180,000 tons of cane, equivalent to about 20,000 tons of sugar.

Sea island cotton is grown as a catch crop with cane.

All estates have a certain number of contract labourers, who live in estate houses and receive free medical attendance and a free plot of land for growing ground provisions and vegetables.

In Nevis and Anguilla there is practically no cultivation carried on by estates, the land being worked by peasants. Some of these own their own plots of land and others rent land, while others work the land and give a share of the produce as rent. In Nevis there are about 273 peasant proprietors owning approximately 330 acres

of land. The peasants produce considerable quantities of ground provisions which find a ready market in St. Kitts. They have also started the growing of vegetables for export to Canada during the winter months, but markets are discouraging.

There are Government agricultural instructors in Nevis and Anguilla who pay frequent visits to peasant holdings and endeavour to improve the methods of agriculture.

The Government has recently started a land-settlement scheme in Nevis.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Imports for 1931 were valued at £241,276, and exports at £169,733. Comparative figures for three years together with direction of trade are as follows :—

IMPORTS.								
<i>Country from which imported.</i>	1929.		1930.		1931.			
	<i>Value in £</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Value in £</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Value in £</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>		
United Kingdom ...	105,535	30·12	93,681	32·73	85,175	35·30		
Canada ...	97,586	27·85	73,063	25·52	56,380	23·36		
Barbados ...	6,005	1·71	4,701	1·64	2,677	1·11		
British Guiana ...	3,783	1·08	3,653	1·28	5,527	2·29		
India ...	8,052	2·30	10,171	3·55	5,386	2·22		
Trinidad ...	1,261	·36	9,110	3·18	9,508	3·94		
Leeward Islands ...	13,647	3·90	1,389	·48	1,974	·82		
Other British Possessions	2,499	·71	1,402	·49	1,774	·74		
Total British Possessions	132,833		103,489		83,226			
United States of America	83,199	23·74	67,097	23·44	48,522	20·12		
France ...	2,331	6·71	1,859	·65	2,416	1·01		
Germany ...	3,200	·91	3,779	1·32	5,583	2·31		
Holland ...	8,381	2·39	7,954	2·78	7,411	3·07		
Other Foreign Countries	14,958	4·26	8,405	2·94	8,943	3·71		
Total Foreign Countries	112,069		89,094		72,875			
Total Imports ...	350,437		286,264		241,276			

EXPORTS.							
Country to which exported.	1929.		1930.		1931.		
	Value in £	Per cent.	Value in £	Per cent.	Value in £	Per cent.	
United Kingdom	199,346	78·38	105,420	36·01	38,547	22·70	
Canada	14,713	5·78	139,009	47·49	87,007	51·27	
Other parts of the British Empire.	14,980	5·89	14,716	5·03	14,027	8·26	
United States of America ...	210	·08	450	·15	1,491	·88	
Other Foreign Countries ...	25,095	9·87	33,123	11·23	28,661	16·90	
Total Exports ...	254,344		292,718		169,733		

The exchange situation existing between the Colony and the United States and Canada has resulted in the diversion of trade from both the United States and Canada to the United Kingdom, and orders for goods from England are increasing as a consequence.

Local prices of food increased slightly after October owing to advance rates of exchange with the United States of America and Canada from which places flour, fish, and corn-meal are generally procured.

Shipping entered and cleared in 1931 as compared with the past three years is as follows :—

SHIPPING.

Steamers entered and cleared :—

Year.			British		Foreign		Total	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1929	386	1,391,848	107	139,520	493	1,531,368		
1930	412	1,538,614	236	502,329	648	2,040,943		
1931	398	1,546,138	301	465,211	699	2,011,349		

Sailing vessels entered and cleared :—

Year.			British		Foreign		Total	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1929	1,650	21,232	259	19,953	1,909	41,185		
1930	2,057	24,457	187	15,718	2,244	40,175		
1931	2,548	23,732	115	10,234	2,663	33,966		

Tonnage of shipping entered and cleared :—

			British Tonnage.	Foreign Tonnage.	Total Tonnage.
1929 ... ..	...	...	1,412,080	159,473	1,571,553
1930 ... ..	...	...	1,563,071	518,042	2,081,113
1931 ... ..	...	...	1,569,870	475,445	2,045,315

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The following are the average rates of wages of estate labourers and Government employees :—

Men...	...	...	...	1s. 2d. to 2s. per day.
Women	...	...	...	8d. to 1s. „
Carpenters, masons, and factory mechanics.	...	...	...	4s. to 6s. „

On estates, nearly all work is done by task, and labourers often do two tasks per day. During the cane crop the men earn about 18s. per week. Estate labourers also receive certain privileges such as free medical attendance, houses, and plots of land. For a day's pay a labourer is supposed to do eight hours' work.

The cost of living generally has fallen somewhat within recent years but it is still very high when compared with the cost during pre-war days.

During 1931, however, owing to adverse trade conditions with the United States of America and Canada, the cost of certain foodstuffs, e.g., corn-meal, was increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

For secondary education there are in St. Kitts a grammar school for boys (owned by Government), a high school for girls (subsidized by Government), and a convent high school, and there is a mixed school in Nevis (subsidized by Government). The standard aimed at is that of the Cambridge school certificate.

There are sixteen primary schools in St. Kitts (including 3 for infants, 2 for boys, 2 for girls, and the rest mixed), ten in Nevis (1 for infants, 2 for boys, and 2 for girls), and five in Anguilla.

There is an Inspector of Schools for the Presidency stationed in St. Kitts, and an Educational District Officer in each of the other islands. The number of children on the roll is 7,571.

There are two homes for the poor and infirm in the Presidency: one in Charlestown, Nevis, and the other in Basseterre, St. Kitts.

The infirmary in Nevis is a separate building in the hospital grounds and consists of two rooms (male and female) with verandahs, etc. Each room has 6 beds which are always occupied. The annual expenditure is £85.

The infirmary in St. Kitts is situated to the west of the town of Basseterre. It consists of two large buildings (male and female living rooms) with spacious verandahs, a dining hall, kitchen and pantry, matron's quarters, etc., and an unfinished chapel. It is entirely enclosed and has fairly large grounds. There are 25 beds in each of the dormitories, and at present there are 49 inmates. The annual expenditure inclusive of a matron, cook, and laundress, is £528.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Service is maintained by the following steamship companies:—

Canadian National.—From Canada.

Ocean Dominion.—From Canada.

Ocean Dominion.—From New York.

Bermuda & West India S.S. Co.—From New York.

Munson S.S. Line.—From New York.

Harrison S.S. Line.—From England.

Royal Netherlands S.S. Co.—From Curacao, via Dutch Islands.

French Line.—From Martinique.

Apart from these lines a considerable number of small sailing craft connect the smaller islands.

ROADS.

The main road forms a closed circuit running more or less parallel to the coast line and with but few branch roads. It consists of a good macadamized road surface.

RAILWAYS.

A railway system has been built. It is used entirely for the transport of sugar-cane.

OMNIBUSES.

There are a considerable number of motor trucks and cars carrying on a good internal traffic.

TRAMWAYS.

The necessity for tramways does not exist.

POSTS.

With a central post office and sub-stations in many towns and villages a satisfactory postal delivery is maintained.

TELEGRAPHS.

There are two systems of telegraphic communication, viz. :—

- (1) The West India and Panama Submarine Cable.
- (2) Imperial and International Communications, Limited.

Both systems are now controlled by the latter Company.

TELEPHONES.

The telephone system is of the overhead ground-return circuit and extends throughout the island.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) formerly the Colonial Bank, and the Royal Bank of Canada have branches at Basseterre, St. Kitts.

They each have a \$5 note issue, and approximately \$50,000 for each Bank was in circulation in 1931.

They each have Savings Departments and give 3 per cent. on deposits.

The usual rate of interest charged by Banks on overdrafts is 8 per cent. compound.

There is a Government Savings Bank with branches at Basseterre, St. Kitts, and Charlestown, Nevis.

The following is a comparative statement of the transactions for the past three years :—

Year.	Amount of deposits during the year.			Amount of withdrawals during the year.			Number of depositors at end of year.	Rate of interest paid per annum. Per cent.	Amount standing to credit of depositors.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Apl. 1929—	711	16	7	510	2	4	184	3	4,209	11	9
Mch. 1930.											
Apl. 1930—	219	7	1	64	6	0	185	3	4,063	1	10
Mch. 1931											
Apl. 1931—	387	17	5	447	13	10	185	3	4,003	5	5
Dec. 1931.											

CURRENCY.

All coins of the United Kingdom are taken at face value.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the financial depression existing in 1931, public works, with the exception of those under Colonial Development Schemes, consisted of ordinary maintenance and repair work.

Twenty-one model reinforced concrete cottages were built, and the water-supply of some small villages improved with assistance from Colonial Development funds.

Ice and cold storage plants were also erected in Basseterre, St. Kitts, and Charlestown, Nevis. The ice plant at Basseterre is of 5 tons capacity in 24 hours, and that at Charlestown, one-half ton.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

There is no resident Judge in the Presidency, the number of judges in the Colony having been reduced from three to two.

Each island of the Presidency constitutes a circuit, and superior courts are held three times a year in St. Kitts and Nevis. It is seldom necessary for the judge to hold a court in Anguilla. Either the Chief Justice from Antigua or a Puisne Judge presides.

There are four magisterial districts in the Presidency—two in St. Kitts, one in Nevis, and one in Anguilla—presided over by four magistrates. Summary courts are held at five centres in St. Kitts, three in Nevis, and one in Anguilla.

POLICE.

The police of the Presidency form part of a Federal body, and at present are commanded by an inspector.

The establishment consists of 1 officer and 54 other ranks. They are distributed as follows :—

St. Kitts	...	6 stations.	38 N.C.Os. and men.
Nevis	...	4 stations.	14 " "
Anguilla	...	1 station.	2 " "

PRISONS.

The St. Kitts prison is the prison for the Presidency and is situate in the town of Basseterre. It consists of three buildings used for the reception of prisoners ; also a building divided up and used as offices, a workshop, a kitchen, and another used exclusively as a residence for the keeper of the prison.

One of the three buildings used for the reception of prisoners is made of stone, of one storey, and this building is used entirely for male prisoners. The other two buildings used for the reception of female prisoners are wooden structures, one being of two storeys, and the other being of one storey. The upper storey of the one is used as a residence for the matron of the prison, while the lower storey is divided equally into two cells ; the other building is also equally divided into eight cells and these ten cells are used exclusively for female prisoners.

The part of the premises used for the matron and the female prisoners is entirely separated by a masonry wall from the part used for the keeper and the male prisoners.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Five Ordinances and fifteen Statutory Rules and Orders became Law within the year under review.

There is no legislation in the Presidency for factories or for compensation for accidents, etc.

The Medical Ordinance, 1919, provides for free medical attendance for children of labourers and for poor and destitute persons.

The following is a list of the Ordinances and Statutory Rules and Orders :—

ORDINANCES.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Short Title.</i>	<i>Effect.</i>
1.	The Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.	The usual Ordinance, but ending on 31st December.
2.	The Export Duty Remission Ordinance, 1931.	Abolishes export duties on sugar, syrup, molasses, and rum in the year 1931.
3.	The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.	The usual Ordinance.
4.	The Appropriation Ordinance, 1932.	The usual Ordinance.
5.	The Public Piers and Wharves Amendment Ordinance, 1931.	Repeals section 2 of the Public Piers and Wharves Ordinance, 1900, and substitutes a new section, whereby piers and wharves subject to wharfage rates are named by Order in Council.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Short Title.</i>	<i>Effect.</i>
1.	Exportation of Fruit Rules, 1931.	Regulates the grading and packing of fruit.
2.	Customs Duties	Exempts from payment of duty goods imported for the repair of St. George's Rectory, Nevis.
3.	Dangerous Drugs Order. (Di-hydro-morphinone).	Part IV of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1927, declared applicable.
4.	Close season for Cotton (Anguilla).	Fixes date of close season.
5.	Cotton Regulations, Anguilla, 1931.	Repeals Cotton Regulations of 1929, and makes new ones.
6.	Warner Park Regulations, 1930, Amendment Regulations, 1931.	Vacation of membership of Committee by absence from island.
7.	Emigrants Protection Permits, Anguilla.	Deposits not to be collected.
8.	Arms and Ammunition (Tear Gas Pistol) Order, 1931.	Tear Gas Pistols declared to be arms.
9.	Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, 1905, Proclamation as to Tear Gas Pistols.	Importation of Tear Gas Pistols prohibited.
10.	Customs Duties	Imperial and International Communications, Limited, substituted for the Pacific Cable Board.
11.	Customs Duties	Apparatus, etc., imported by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, exempt from duty.
12.	Medical Districts Order in Council, 1931.	Fixes the boundaries of the medical districts in Nevis.
13.	Customs Duties	Alters and increases the rates of certain items.
14.	Electric Current	Fixes the rates.
15.	Customs Duties	Increases rates on spirits and wine.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following is a statement of revenue and expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1931, as compared with the years 1930-31 and 1929-30.

REVENUE.

1st April, 1931 to 31st December, 1931.	1st April, 1930 to 31st March, 1931.	1st April, 1929 to 31st March, 1930.
£69,207 (a)	£114,242 (b)	£102,013 (c)
(a) Includes Imperial grant for Colonial Development		
Schemes ... ..	...	...
and for relief of unemployment	...	...
(b) Includes Imperial grant for Colonial Development		
Schemes ... ..	...	...
and for relief of unemployment	...	...
and from sale of reserve funds investments	...	...
(c) Includes £4,025 19s. 2d. from sale of investments for repayment of debentures under Ordinance 5 of 1885.		

EXPENDITURE.

1st April, 1931 to 31st December, 1931.	1st April, 1930 to 31st March, 1931.	1st April, 1929 to 31st March, 1930.
£82,839	£116,893	£100,365
The year opened on 1st April, 1931, with a		
Surplus of ... ..	...	£ s. d.
Total revenue 1st April to 31st December was	69,207	9 5
Total expenditure „ „ „	82,839	7 5½
Leaving a deficit on 31st December, 1931, of...	12,908	18 5½

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt at 31st December, 1931, was £72,350 and the accumulated sinking funds at middle market price at that date amounted to £43,567 16s. 6d., leaving a net debt of £28,782 3s. 6d., or £416 16s. 11d. less than at the close of the last financial year.

ASSETS.

There are no surplus or reserve funds.	<i>Per annum.</i>
Main heads of taxation are :—	£
1. Import duties (on other than alcoholic liquor) yielding approximately	38,500
Import duties (on alcoholic liquor) yielding approximately	13,400
2. Export duties yielding approximately	5,000
(Collection of export duty on sugar and molasses suspended during 1931).	
3. Pier dues yielding approximately	5,500
4. Tonnage and package dues yielding approximately	3,600
5. Land and house taxes yielding approximately ...	4,600
6. Income-tax yielding approximately	3,500
(The rates on chargeable incomes over £200 per annum are to be increased from 1st April, 1932.)	

CUSTOMS TARIFF (summarized).

An *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. is imposed on British goods, and 15 per cent. generally on foreign goods; the general rate, however, in some cases is higher than this. Similarly, specific rates of duty confer upon British goods a preference of 50 per cent. Duties in many cases are lower than in other places throughout the West Indies.

EXCISE AND STAMP DUTIES (summarized).

Excise of 8s. per proof gallon on rum made locally (Ordinance No. 3 of 1892) since raised to 10s. per gallon. No distillery is now working in St. Kitts and no excise is collected.

Stamp duties, about £700 per annum, are levied under Leeward Islands Act, Cap. 135.

HUT TAX OR POLL TAX

(Rate, yield, methods of assessment and collection).

There is no Hut or Poll Tax in force. There is, however, a minimum tax of 5s. per annum payable half-yearly on every house lot in the town of Basseterre, St. Kitts, which is assessed by the Land and House Tax Commissioners under Ordinance 9 of 1913. If the tax is not paid at the Treasury within the prescribed period it is collected by the Provost Marshal by distraint or otherwise (ss. 23-33 of Ordinance 9 of 1913).

DOMINICA.**I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.****GEOGRAPHY.**

Dominica is an island of approximately 304 square miles, situated between 15° 10' and 15° 40' North latitude and 61° 14' and 61° 30' West longitude, and is of a very mountainous nature, the whole island being split up into deep valleys and hills. The highest peak is Morne Diablotin, 4,747 feet. There are many rivers and the rainfall is high.

CLIMATE.

From the latter part of November to April the climate is pleasant. During the rest of the year it is generally hot and liable to heavy rains. Malaria is endemic in the capital and other parts of the island, and it is desirable to take precautions against dysentery and other water-borne diseases by boiling all water.

The means of minimum and maximum temperature during 1931 ranged between 68° and 75° and 83° and 94°.

The rainfall at Roseau for 1931 totalled 93·87 inches.

HISTORY.

Dominica was discovered by Christopher Columbus on Sunday, 3rd November, 1493, and was included in the grant of sundry islands in the Caribbean Sea to the Earl of Carlisle by a patent dated 2nd June, 1627. Several attempts to bring the place under subjection proved abortive and in 1748 it was stipulated between the English and the French that Dominica should be neutral and should be left to the Caribs who were originally found in possession. During this period, when Dominica was professedly regarded as neutral, many French planters settled in the island.

It was captured by the English in 1756 and was assigned to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1763. Dominica, at this time, formed a unit of the general government which comprised Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, and Tobago.

In 1771 the island was constituted a separate government and on 21st June, 1775, a House of Representatives was established by Royal Proclamation.

The island was captured in 1778 by the French, but was restored to Great Britain in 1783.

Another invasion of the island was attempted in 1795 by the French, but this failed.

In 1805 the French again landed and the capital, Roseau, was set on fire.

In 1833 the island was, with Antigua and other Leeward Islands, formed into a general government, under a Governor-in-Chief, resident at Antigua.

On the windward side of the island exists, in a reserve set apart, a remnant of the once warlike tribe of Caribs. The number of the inhabitants in the reserve is approximately 500, but of these only a small proportion can be considered of "pure" Carib blood.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The local Government is administered by an Administrator aided by an Executive Council consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General of the Leeward Islands, and such persons as may be appointed from time to time, under the Royal Instructions of 5th May, 1904. There is a Legislative Council, consisting of six official members, two non-official members, nominated by the Governor under Royal Letters Patent, and four elected members. The Administrator presides in the Legislative Council in the absence of the Governor.

III.—POPULATION.

The last census was taken in the year 1921. The population at 31st December, 1931, was estimated at 43,098.

The birth-rate was 35·34 per thousand in 1931 compared with 34·74 in 1930. The percentage of legitimate and illegitimate births was 43·84 and 56·16 respectively.

The death-rate in 1931 was 18·5 per thousand compared with 18·9 in 1930, whilst the infantile mortality (children under one year) amounted to 290 or 32 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

There were 167 marriages reported in 1931, consisting of :—

Church of England	...	...	6
Roman Catholics	...	...	156
Wesleyans	...	...	4
Reformed Methodists	...	...	1
<hr/>			
Total...	...	...	167
<hr/>			

There were 1,500 departures from Dominica in 1931, whilst 1,839 persons arrived, the ratio being 45 per cent. and 55 per cent. respectively.

A French patois is spoken by the majority of the inhabitants, though the use of English is becoming more general.

IV.—HEALTH.

The incidence of the principal diseases in the districts (excluding the hospitals) in 1931 was as follows :—

					<i>Per cent.</i>
Intestinal parasites	...	...	...	...	16·37
Malaria	...	...	...	...	14·44
Skin and connective tissues diseases	...	...	...	...	12·38
Diseases of the digestive system	...	...	...	...	10·84
Yaws	...	...	...	...	8·64
Diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	6·37

Venereal diseases amounted to 3·43 per cent., whilst leprosy is recorded as 0·1 per cent.

Hookworm (ankylostomiasis) and malaria are the two most important diseases, affecting principally the labouring population. Yaws has shown a progressive decline during the last few years.

The greater part of the population is engaged on agricultural work, either on estates or plantations or on small peasant holdings.

There is a hospital in Roseau which contained in 1931 ninety-four beds including seven for private patients.

At Portsmouth there is a second hospital with thirty-five beds, whilst at Marigot and Grand Bay there are cottage hospitals each

containing four beds. At Roseau there is an English matron with 14 native nurses, whilst in the country hospitals the work is performed by native nurses.

In 1931 a Medical Officer of Health was generously provided for from the Colonial Development Fund. His work, however, has been much handicapped by the very limited funds at his disposal.

V.—HOUSING.

The commonest type of dwelling house used by the wage-earning section of the population is a single-storey wooden structure which may or may not be elevated from the ground by a few stones or wooden supports. The roof is made of wooden shingles or galvanized iron, though roofs of the thatched type are seen in the country districts. The interior may be divided into two or three compartments by wooden boards. The size varies roughly from 10 ft. by 8 ft. by 8 ft. to about 20 ft. by 16 ft. by 10 ft. These houses can usually be moved *en bloc* from site to site.

On an average there are said to be five persons to every dwelling house in Dominica.

Cooking and washing are not done in the houses. Some roughly made kitchen adjoins each house and the fuel used is charcoal.

Water pipes are only laid directly on to the better class houses, otherwise a receptacle is kept near the house which is replenished from a conveniently near pipe-supply, or from the nearest stream, irrespective of its potable qualities.

It is exceptional to see a proper latrine for each house, but there are communal pail latrines in Roseau and in some of the villages. There is a water-borne sewage system in Roseau, but only with limited connexions. The outfall at the sea front would not permit of connecting up all houses. Owing to the nature of the shore and the damage by hurricanes it is difficult to know what course to recommend.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Dominica is dependent on its agricultural production, there being no mineral and very few refined products manufactured. Orchard crops constitute the chief area planted, of which limes and other citrus fruits, cocoa, coco-nuts, and coffee are the most important.

For many years the lime industry has been the staple industry, and in 1921 reached its highest peak of production, which, expressed in round numbers as fruit, represented over 500,000 barrels. Since that year a series of disasters has affected this industry, namely, the advent of withertip disease in 1922, a hurricane in 1926, followed by a widespread epidemic of root diseases of seedling lime trees, still

prevalent, and exceptionally severe hurricanes in 1928 and 1930. These calamities have resulted in the wholesale destruction of seedling lime plantations and the reduction of the crop exported to approximately only 25,000 barrels in 1931.

It has definitely been established that the lime budded on a deep-rooting and disease-resisting stock is a safeguard against such contingencies, and planters for the past three years have been actively engaged in rehabilitating their estates with this type of plant. The earlier plantings are just commencing to fruit. The Agricultural Department is primarily concerned in propagating these budded limes of which 27,000 have been distributed in 1931 and a total of nearly 58,000 in the past four years.

Plantations of other permanent crops such as cocoa and coco-nuts have been seriously affected by the hurricanes and production is temporarily at a low level.

Citrus trees other than limes which were already growing on sour orange stock and were only temporarily damaged by the hurricane made rapid recovery, and production this year has been well above the average. A Government central packing depot equipped with grading machinery has done much to stimulate the fruit industry.

The amelioration of agricultural conditions in Dominica brought about by storms and diseases is being materially assisted by the Imperial Government in the form of grants-in-aid and loans to planters administered by the Agricultural Department and the Loan Board respectively.

A few of the principal estates are owned and managed by Europeans, but the majority belong to local planters. There is also a preponderance of peasant holdings which, besides augmenting the supply of staple products, grow ground provisions for local consumption. The introduction of new settlers with capital would be beneficial in helping to bring large areas of semi-abandoned land back into cultivation.

There is no live stock officer or veterinary surgeon in Dominica, and the raising of live stock as an industry is left entirely to individual enterprise. The number of animals so raised is insufficient for local purposes.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade of the Presidency for the year 1931 was £236,737, imports being £167,799 and exports £68,938. This shows an excess of imports over exports of £98,861 as compared with £87,804 for the previous year.

2. The following table shows the direction of trade for the years 1931 and 1930 :—

IMPORTS.

			1931.	1930.
			£	£
United Kingdom	...	...	55,860	72,213
British North America	...	...	35,243	46,314
Other British Possessions	...	...	37,436	36,403
United States of America	...	...	30,776	37,361
Other Foreign Countries	...	...	8,484	8,599
Total	...	...	£167,799	£200,890

EXPORTS.

			1931.	1930.
			£	£
United Kingdom	...	...	22,795	40,514
British North America	...	...	3,308	6,258
Other British Possessions	...	...	8,189	10,601
United States of America	...	...	26,714	55,066
Other Foreign Countries	...	...	7,932	647
Total	...	...	£68,938	£113,086

3. The percentage of import trade for the year 1931 was as follows :—United Kingdom 33·29 per cent., Canada 21 per cent., Other British Possessions 22·31 per cent., United States 18·35 per cent., Other Foreign Countries 5·05 per cent.; thus it will be seen that only 23·40 per cent. of the value of the imports was from foreign countries.

4. As regards imports from the United States, food and drink amounted to £5,944, and other articles £24,832, the principal items being butter substitutes, 96,000 lb., valued at £3,137; corn-meal, 559 bags of 98 lb. each, value £298; peas and beans, 12,030 lb., value £205; medicine and drugs, £429; preserved meats, 80,555 lb., valued at £724; shooks and staves, £1,463, wood, 195,526 feet, valued at £3,336, cotton piece-goods, £5,578; gasolene, 17,439 gallons, £1,303; kerosene, 33,264 gallons, £1,581; and machinery, £1,230.

5. It is to be hoped that efforts made by the Canadian trade exhibition cruise on the S.S. *New Northland* will to a great extent divert much of the import trade from the United States to Canada. Similar Empire exhibition cruises would tend to develop Empire trade by bringing manufacturers and shippers into closer touch with local tradesmen.

6. Owing to the ravages of the red root disease and the disastrous hurricane of 1930 as well as the depressed condition of the market for such items as vanilla, lime and lime products, etc., there is a decided falling off in export of these commodities. The following is a comparative table of these items for 1930 and 1931 :—

				1931.		1930.	
					£		£
Cocoa ...	...	...	...	218,773 lb.	1,595	409,536 lb.	6,826
Copra ...	...	...	...	45,526 „	351	113,831 „	1,067
Lime juice, raw	...	...	...	93,255 gallons	3,886	195,994 gallons	9,800
Lime juice, concentrated	...	...	...	3,211 gallons	241	45,832 gallons	5,729
Green limes	...	...	...	10,867 barrels	13,584	17,461 barrels	23,191
Distilled lime oil	...	...	...	14,446 lb.	21,668	25,667 lb.	34,664
Vanilla	...	...	...	144 lb.	29	7,678 „	2,112

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The average wage of a labourer is 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. a day, and female labour 10d., while artificers' wages range from 4s. to 6s., the hours of work being 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The staple food-stuffs are local vegetables which are cheap, and an expenditure of 1s. a day would cover this and other necessities.

The prices of commodities to the labouring class during the year on such items as bread, flour, fish, meat, fresh vegetables, and sugar were :—bread 4d. per lb., fish 4d., meat 7d., vegetables 1½d., sugar 3d., kerosene 6d. per quart. These prices are on the average similar to those of 1930.

There is no staple food-stuff that can act as a true guide to the cost of living of the labourer. When vegetables are plentiful there is less recourse to the shops for such items as flour and meal.

Regarding officials, the cost of certain items would be :—house rent £30 to £60 per annum, various commodities such as butter 3s. per lb., milk 4d. per quart, cheese 2s. to 3s. per lb., eggs 1½d. each, coffee 1s. 6d. per lb., cocoa 2s. per lb., bacon and ham 2s. 6d. per lb., and wine 6s. per bottle.

The cost of living of officials is high, as imported food-stuffs are mostly used and the cost of these is gradually rising.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

In 1931, there were 31 primary schools in existence, 27 maintained by Government, 3 assisted by Government, and one unaided. The number of pupils enrolled to the end of December, 1931, was 7,297 with an average attendance of 4,742, against an enrolment of 7,306 and an average attendance of 4,601 at the end of December, 1930.

The Estimates for the period under review provided the sum of £4,414 for schools, and the actual expenditure for the period was £4,129 3s. 1d. During the period great efforts have been made to improve the work in every school, often in the face of difficulties, and although it has been impossible to do all that could have been wished, satisfactory progress has been made.

Much has been done to cope with the need for increased accommodation in congested schools.

The equipment in the schools has improved but the vote is inadequate to deal with the increase in attendance.

School gardening has shown much progress.

Manual training has been taken up with much enthusiasm in some of the schools. Carpentry is taught to boys of the middle and upper classes.

A night school has been in existence for some time in Roseau, whilst another was started at Portsmouth in April last. The total enrolment of these two schools is 286 with an average attendance of 152.

There are three institutions aiming at a standard above that of the primary schools :—

The grammar school for boys with 60 pupils (December, 1931) maintained by Government ; the convent secondary school for girls with 73 girls, and a preparatory department containing also seven boys aided by Government ; the Wesley high school, a small private school, with some 20 pupils, mainly girls.

All three schools have as their highest standard that of the school certificate of the University of Cambridge Examinations Syndicate. In this and the Junior Local Examination the grammar school has been conspicuously successful of recent years and compares more than favourably with any other school in the Colony. The girls' schools have been less successful, but there appears to have been an improvement in the standard reached recently.

While the academic standard is a comparatively high one, conditions in the island make it difficult to embark on certain original methods of inculcating knowledge and the appreciation of knowledge. Games, which are a compulsory part of the curriculum at the boys' school are played on the public grounds where the staff do not have that measure of control which would enable them to stress certain features of team games which are such great value in the building of character and the teaching of self-control.

The Agricultural Department maintains a small class of youths who are trained in the elements of practical agricultural method, and the efforts here are meeting with success.

The Leeward Islands Colony has a scholarship of sufficient value to enable the winner to proceed to a seat of higher education elsewhere—Canada, the United States, or Great Britain—but there is, in the Colony, no further provision for education beyond the normal small secondary school standard.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

The chief means of transport is the sea, while on the leeward coast it is also the main means of communication ; a regular mail service by motor boat runs between Roseau and Portsmouth. There are about 270 miles of roads, but only 55 are suitable for motor traffic.

There is a single-line telephone with exchanges at Roseau, Layou, Portsmouth, Marigot, Grand Bay, and Delices, and a wireless station on Morne Daniel operated by Imperial and International Communications, Limited.

There is an open roadstead at Roseau and a good natural harbour in Prince Rupert's Bay, Portsmouth.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two Banks carrying on business in the Presidency. Barclays (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and the Royal Bank of Canada. These Banks also issue their own bank notes and had at the end of the year a note circulation of \$68,260.

Both Banks have Savings Bank Departments and pay 3 per cent. interest on deposits.

There is a Government Savings Bank and interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. was paid on deposits during the year. The following is a statement of the transactions for the past two years :—

Year.	Amount of deposits during the year.			Amount of withdrawals during the year.			Number of depositors at end of year.	Rate of interest.	Amount standing to credit of depositors.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£ s. d.
1929-30	8,010	12	6	2,181	14	2	496	3½	11,536 8 3
1930-31	5,385	16	4	8,170	5	8	626	3½	8,751 18 10

CURRENCY.

All coins of the United Kingdom are used as currency at face value. The local dollar is a sterling dollar, value 4s. 2d.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Presidency.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The main activities apart from routine services have been devoted to Colonial Development Schemes, chiefly road construction.

A new infant school was completed in Roseau at a cost of just under £1,000, and additions and improvements to the Roseau Hospital were carried out at a cost of approximately £600.

Great damage was caused to the roads of the island due to a long drought followed by excessive rains and insufficient maintenance funds to repair the damage. Much deterioration has resulted.

The following Colonial Development Schemes have been completed or are in course of construction :—

Completed.	£
Tuberculosis ward, Roseau	1,458
Blenheim bridge	1,752
Water service to 6 villages	2,758
Cold storage plant, Roseau	5,309

Under Construction.

Maternity ward (No. 2), Roseau, completed since 31st December, 1931.

Provision of manhole covers for streets of Roseau.

Road scheme.

Drainage, Portsmouth swamp.

The staff of the Department consists of a Colonial Engineer and Surveyor General, two Road Surveyors, and an Electrician, together with the normal clerical, etc., staff. In addition there is a Road Engineer supervising the Colonial Development Road Schemes.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

The administration of justice in Dominica is a Federal matter and is governed by three Acts of the General Legislature of the Leeward Islands, viz.: the Supreme Court Act, the Summary Jurisdiction Court Act, and the Magistrate's Code of Procedure Act. There is also the West Indian Court of Appeal Act which provides for a West Indian Court of Appeal.

The Supreme Court.—The Dominica circuit of the Supreme Court of the Leeward Islands consists of the First Puisne Judge of the Leeward Islands, a Crown Attorney of the Leeward Islands, both resident in Dominica, and the Registrar and Provost Marshal of Dominica. The Supreme Court being Federal, any Judge or Law Officer of the whole Colony may act in any Presidency of the Colony. Any member of the English, Scotch, or Irish Bar is entitled to be admitted as a practising Barrister of the Supreme Court of the Leeward Islands. Any person who has been admitted as a Solicitor, or Writer to the Signet, by a Superior Court in England, Scotland, or Ireland is entitled to be admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of the Leeward Islands. There are no local Barristers or Solicitors.

The Supreme Court is always open, and a Circuit Court for the hearing of criminal and civil cases is held three times a year, viz.: January, May, and October. In all criminal and in certain civil cases the Court is assisted by a jury of nine men empanelled in accordance with the provisions of the Jury Act. There is no Grand Jury; the Crown Attorney performs the functions of the Grand Jury.

The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over all indictable felonies and misdemeanours and over all civil cases (with the exception of those coming under the jurisdiction of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and the Magistrate's Court).

The Court of Summary Jurisdiction.—The Judges of the Supreme Court of the Leeward Islands and the Officers of the Supreme Court of the Leeward Islands are Judges and Officers of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

The Court of Summary Jurisdiction sits in the Presidency of Dominica on the first day of each month and is presided over by the First Puisne Judge of the Leeward Islands, resident in Dominica.

The Magistrates' Courts.—The Island of Dominica is divided into three Magisterial Districts, viz.: "E," "F," and "G." There are three Magistrates and one Additional Magistrate. The Magistrate of District "E" is also Crown Attorney. The Magistrate of District "F" is also Additional Magistrate of District "E." The Magistrate of District "G" is also Warden of the Northern District. There are twelve Magistrates' Court Houses in the Presidency.

Appeals.—All appeals from the Supreme Court and the Court of Summary Jurisdiction (with the exception of appeals arising from the Magistrates' Courts) lie to the West Indian Court of Appeal composed of the Chief Justices of the British West Indies. The West Indian Court of Appeal is also a Court of Criminal Appeal.

All appeals from the Magistrates' Courts lie, in the first instance, to a Judge of the Supreme Court and on further appeal to the Full Court.

The Full Court.—The Full Court sits twice a year in the Antigua circuit and is composed of the Chief Justice and one or two Puisne Judges of the Leeward Islands. The jurisdiction of the Full Court is now very limited. It was stripped of practically all its powers on the creation of the West Indian Court of Appeal. Its chief functions now are to hear appeals from a Judge of the Supreme Court arising from appeals from the Magistrates' Courts and cases of breach of discipline by any officer of the Court.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

There are a few Justices of the Peace in the Presidency. They are appointed by Commission of the Governor. Any two Justices of the Peace may sit and adjudicate on a case in which the District Magistrate is interested. Any Justice of the Peace may order the closing of a rum shop in case of a riot.

POLICE.

The Presidency is policed by a detachment of the Leeward Islands Police Force of 2 officers and 39 non-commissioned officers and men, assisted to a very small degree by about 70 local constables.

The Inspector of Police in charge of the detachment is under the command of the Chief Inspector in Antigua.

The force is a semi-military body armed with S.M.L.E. rifles and a Lewis gun.

Crime.—Offences against the revenue are dealt with almost entirely by the police, there being very few revenue officers in the island. Five cases of illicit distillation of rum and three cases of smuggling were dealt with in 1931. The number of cases actually

dealt with was undoubtedly small compared with the number of offences actually committed. The sympathy of the population was and has been for some time with the lawbreakers, and the small number of the police, the inaccessibility of the country, and the lack of a sea patrol boat make detection of these offences very difficult.

The most important class of offence in an agricultural community like that of Dominica is praedial larceny, and the statistics for the year give very little indication of the extent to which this crime has spread. Thousands of cases, yearly, of this nature are not actually discovered until long after they have been committed, and consequently never prosecuted; probably many cases are not discovered at all.

Larceny of limes was the commonest offence, and though the Agricultural Protection Ordinance controlled to some extent the sale of this product, shortage of officers on the strength of the police with an agricultural knowledge made the Ordinance only partially effective. Of offences against the person a case of the murder of a newborn babe was reported to the police, resulting in a verdict of guilty for "attempted concealment of birth."

There have also been a few cases of housebreaking and burglary.

PRISONS.

Buildings.—The Dominica prison contains 20 male cells and 8 female cells. The average number of prisoners in 1931 was 25 males and 7 females.

The male prisoners are permanently divided from the female, but there are no means of segregating the prisoners on hard labour from debtors, juveniles, or remanded prisoners awaiting trial.

Every effort is made, however, to keep each class as far apart as possible.

Juvenile.—Juvenile offenders are tried in a juvenile court from which the public are excluded. During 1931, fortunately, only one juvenile was actually in prison. Other offenders of this class were dealt with by being put on probation or reprimanded as first offenders. In a few bad cases these offenders received corporal punishment, and in others their parents or guardians were fined.

Probation.—Advantage was taken of the Probation Act by the magistrates.

Deaths.—One male prisoner died during the year.

Commitments.—The number of prisoners committed during the year was:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
From Magistrate's Court...	208	100
From Circuit Court ...	19	5
Remanded prisoners, lunatics included...	42	27
Debtors ...	3	—
Totals ...	272	132

Of the convicted prisoners one male was juvenile.

Analysis of the sentences :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Three months or less	190	97
Over three months and less than one year	21	4
One year and less than five years ...	15	3
Five years or more	1	1
Totals	227	105

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

ORDINANCES PASSED IN DOMINICA DURING 1931.

No. 1.—The Roseau Town Board Validating Ordinance.

No. 2.—The Tobacco Ordinance, 1931.

No. 3.—The Passport Ordinance, 1931.

No. 4.—The Midwifery Ordinance, 1931.

No. 5.—The Administrator's Emoluments Ordinance, 1931.

No. 6.—The Passengers' Ordinance, 1925, Repeal Ordinance, 1931.

No. 7.—The Constitution Amendment Ordinance, 1931.

No. 8.—The Motor Car (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931.

No. 9.—The Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION ISSUED IN DOMINICA DURING 1931.

Statutory Rules and Orders.

No. 1.—Appointing a date for the register of persons entitled to vote at an election of a member of Council.

No. 2.—Appointing a date for the taking of a census.

No. 3.—Bringing up to date the regulations with respect to motor cars.

No. 4.—Varying the close season for the killing, wounding or taking of wild birds.

No. 5.—Removing the prohibition against the island of Nevis in respect of animals suffering from anthrax.

No. 6.—Permitting the wearing of masks between certain hours on certain days, and generally regulating the behaviour of persons participating in the annual carnival.

No. 7.—Regulating the use by the public of the Roseau jetties.

No. 8.—Appointing the 16th and 17th February half holidays.

No. 9.—Dissolving the Legislative Council.

No. 10.—Regulating the duties of Customs and Treasury Officers.

No. 11.—Prohibiting the importation of certain fruits and vegetables from certain named countries.

No. 12.—Relating to the internal management of the Roseau Hospital.

No. 13.—Prohibiting the importation of certain dangerous drugs.

No. 14.—Regulating the exportation of fruit.

No. 15.—Declaring the hours within which motor cars should carry lights.

No. 16.—Exempting visitors' motor cars from the payment of duty under certain conditions.

No. 17.—Rescinding No. 14 of 1931 and making other provisions in lieu thereof with relation to the exportation of fruit.

No. 18.—Declaring a certain new portion of a road to be part of a main public road.

There is Federal legislation enabling certain relatives of a person whose death is caused by any wrongful act to sue for damages.

There is no factory legislation or legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Presidency for the period April to December, 1931, exclusive of Imperial grants and grants from the Colonial Development Fund, amounted to £45,535, comprising the following divisions:—Customs £24,965, Port and Wharf Dues £2,916, Internal Revenue £10,670, Fees of Court £3,342, Post Office £1,226, Telephones £778, Electric Light £1,301, Rents £62, Interest £59, Miscellaneous £212, and Land Sales £4.

In addition the amount received from the Colonial Development Fund was £23,329 and from Imperial grants £20,000.

EXPENDITURE.

The local expenditure amounted to £54,112, together with an expenditure of £20,336 from the Colonial Development Fund and £16,602 from Imperial grants.

Included in the expenditure figures are charges on account of Public Debt, £1,475, Pensions, £4,034, Federal Contribution, £4,417, Hospitals and Charitable Allowances, £5,121, and Education, £5,383.

A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last three years is as follows:—

	1929-30.	1930-31.	April to December 1931.
	£	£	£
Revenue ...	70,674	63,441	45,535
Expenditure	68,356	71,178	54,112

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of the Presidency is £57,417 6s. 7d. made up as follows :—Roads and Bridges Loan, 1888, £30,000 ; Public Works Loan, 1894, £21,417 6s. 7d. ; and Electricity Supply Loan, 1928, £6,000. The Public Works Loan of 1894 was originally £30,000 but £8,582 13s. 5d. amount of stock has been cancelled during 1930.

ASSETS.

There are no available assets, the deficit at 31st December being £14,358.

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION.

The main heads of taxation and the yield from each for the period April to December are :—

	£
Customs	24,965
Jetty Rates	1,932
Excise Duty	5,534
Land and House Tax	1,123
Income-tax	728
Liquor Licence	1,378
Miscellaneous Taxes	1,444

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The Customs Tariff is based on two measures of assessment, an *ad valorem* and specific basis. The *ad valorem* rate is levied chiefly on manufactured articles and is in the main 10 per cent. British preferential tariff and 15 per cent. general tariff ; food and drink are chiefly taxed at specific rates, such items as fish ranging from 2s. 1d., 4s. 2d., and 8s. 4d. per 100 lb. British preferential tariff to 4s. 2d., 6s. 3d., and 12s. 6d. general tariff ; flour and meal at 2s. and 7s. 4d. preferential and 3s. and 9s. general per 196 lb. ; spirits range from 6s. to 11s. per gallon preferential to 9s. to 13s. 6d. general.

EXCISE DUTIES.

Excise duties are leviable on rum locally manufactured at 3s. per proof gallon, and on tobacco at 6d. per lb. Stamp duties are governed by Federal Statutes and are the same throughout the Colony.

There is no hut or poll tax.

MONTSERRAT.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The island, discovered by Columbus in 1493, was named by him after a famous mountain in Spain, where is situated the monastery in which Ignatius Loyola conceived the project of founding the Society of Jesus. Montserrat was colonized by the Irish in 1632; the French took it in 1664, and levied heavy imposts on the inhabitants; it was restored to England in 1668. It capitulated to the French in 1782, but was restored to the English in 1783. Montserrat is situated 27 miles from Antigua in 16° 45' North latitude, and 61° West longitude, and is about 11 miles in length, and 7 in the broadest part. Its total area is 32½ square miles. It is of volcanic formation and very rugged and mountainous. The hills are covered with forest, the highest elevation being Chances Mountain (3,000 feet) in the southern part of the island.

The island is considered to be one of the most healthy of the Antilles.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Presidency is a unit of the Leeward Islands Federation. The local Government is administered by a Commissioner. There is an Executive Council consisting of three official and three unofficial members, and a Legislative Council consisting of four official and four unofficial members, with the Governor, and in his absence the Commissioner, as President. When the Governor is present the Commissioner sits as a member of the Council. A Board of Health deals with public health and poor relief in the island and municipal matters of the town of Plymouth.

Mr. H. H. Hutchings, I.S.O., Commissioner, went on leave on 26th September, 1931, and subsequently retired.

III.—POPULATION.

No census was taken in the Colony in 1931, but at the census in 1921 the population of the Presidency was 12,120, that of the town of Plymouth being 1,709. According to the Registrar-General's report for the year 1931 the population of the Presidency was 12,350 on 31st December, 1931. There were 46 marriages registered during the year, i.e., 0·3 per cent. of the population.

The number of births registered in the year 1931 was 416, of which 66 per cent. were illegitimates.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 285 or 2·3 per cent. of the population.

The deaths of infants under one year of age were 75, or 162·7 per thousand of the total number of births.

The number of immigrants arriving was 128, or 1 per cent. of the population.

The number of emigrants was 145, or 1·1 per cent. of the population.

IV.—HEALTH.

The year 1931 from a health point of view was not a good year for the island of Montserrat. Generally speaking, the health of the community as gauged by the death-rate, number of attendances at hospital, and number of invalidings, compares unfavourably with that of previous years.

The death-rate per 1,000 of population was 23·03 as compared with 19·51 in 1930 and 17·17 in 1929, and was only exceeded in 1928, the year of the disastrous hurricane, when the death-rate rose to 25·12 per 1,000.

The outstanding feature of 1931 was the epidemic of cellulitis in connexion with which Major-General Barrow, Health Officer. Antigua, paid this island a visit in March, 1931. The epidemic, which in the majority of cases was associated with filariasis, began in the latter part of 1930, and spread throughout the island. There were relatively few cases in the town of Plymouth. The epidemic came to an end in the latter months of 1931.

Among special diseases mention must be made of :—

(a) *Filariasis*.—There was a marked increase in the number of cases, many of which were complicated by cellulitis. The cases were removed to hospital for treatment as soon as diagnosed.

(b) *Tuberculosis*.—The number of deaths from tuberculosis during the year was 13, as compared with 21 in 1930, but the number of cases developing within the island showed an increase on previous years. These cases are the result of contact with advanced cases returned chiefly from the United States of America.

At present there is no tuberculosis ward at the hospital, and the need for such accommodation is keenly felt. There is room for much public health work in connexion with this disease.

(c) *Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers*.—These diseases show a decrease on previous years, and the cases that have occurred have not been due to any pollution of the water-supply, which although inadequate in the dry season of the year is very good.

There were five cases treated in hospital in 1931 as compared with 12 in 1930.

(d) *Spirochaetal Diseases*.—Yaws still accounts for the greater number of illnesses among school children and irregular attendances at school.

The campaign against yaws and syphilis is still being waged and the results are becoming more and more evident. There were 1,669 injections, chiefly of arsenical preparations, given at the Glendon Hospital in the treatment of these diseases.

V.—HOUSING.

The houses of the labouring peasant classes are mostly fragile wooden structures. The majority of these people own their houses, but the land on which they are built belongs, as a rule, to the proprietors of the large estates.

On the occurrence of hurricanes, to which the Presidency, in common with other Presidencies of the Colony, is subject, the houses of these people are destroyed and damaged in large numbers.

A scheme has been financed by a loan of £5,000 from the Colonial Development Fund in order to provide stronger and better houses.

A return showing housing conditions is given as an appendix to this Report.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture is the chief occupation of this island, the staple crop being sea island cotton. In 1931, approximately 400,389 lb. of lint were shipped from 3,425 acres, giving an average yield of 117 lb. of lint per acre. This is somewhat under the average of previous years, due to the very unfavourable season that was experienced. Owing to the depressed state of the cotton market, the valuation of this year's crop is only about £20,000, when in normal times it would be valued at about £40,000. Previously, this crop accounted for over 90 per cent. of the value of the total exports from this island.

Tomatoes are now grown extensively for the winter market in Canada, and during 1931, over 17,000 crates (340,000 lb.) were shipped. This brought into the island about £3,500 and was a great help to the people. Other crops, such as yams, sweet potatoes, bananas, and onions, are grown for local consumption. The bay-oil and papain industries are temporarily impaired and held in abeyance for want of a market. Small quantities of lime juice were exported during the year. This industry is seeing very bad times, but hopes of an export trade in green limes both to Canada and to the United States of America are being entertained and every effort is being made to this end.

The following gives an idea of the land tenure in Montserrat:—

	<i>Per cent.</i>
In parcels under 10 acres, 1,235 holdings ...	94
„ „ 11 to 50 acres, 28 holdings ...	2
„ „ 51 to 100 acres, 5 holdings ...	$\frac{1}{2}$
„ „ 101 to 1,000 acres, 35 holdings ...	3
„ over 1,000 acres, 3 holdings ...	$\frac{1}{2}$

The three holdings of over 1,000 acres are held by Europeans and so also are a few of those of 101 to 1,000 acres. All other holdings are held by native peasants.

The general world-wide depression and the dislocation of the sea island cotton market in the United Kingdom have had their ill effects on the trade of the Presidency, which showed a considerable decrease. If the cotton situation does not improve, the economic position of the island will be a matter of serious concern; and efforts are being made to explore new uses for sea island cotton, and to find markets other than those in the United Kingdom.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following are the statistics of Imports and Exports for the last five years :—

IMPORTS.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>United Kingdom. £</i>	<i>Colonies. £</i>	<i>Elsewhere. £</i>	<i>Total. £</i>
1927	... ..	18,742	30,587	14,073	63,402
1928	... ..	15,837	53,319	13,115	82,271
1929	... ..	21,941	39,378	31,251	92,570
1930	... ..	17,473	42,844	11,864	72,181
1931	... ..	10,310	28,961	6,419	45,690

EXPORTS.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>United Kingdom. £</i>	<i>Colonies. £</i>	<i>Elsewhere. £</i>	<i>Total. £</i>
1927	... ..	52,587	10,317	5,849	68,753
1928	... ..	73,543	9,538	5,297	88,378
1929	... ..	38,076	6,326	21,163	65,565
1930	... ..	39,231	5,967	9,823	55,021
1931	... ..	20,256	8,210	5,441	33,907

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and Empire countries increased from 78 per cent. of the total value of imports in 1927 to 86 per cent. of the total value of imports in 1931. The value of exports to the United Kingdom and Empire countries in 1927 was 92 per cent. of the total value of exports, and in 1931 the value of exports to the same places was 84 per cent. of the total value of the exports. This decrease in the exports to British countries can be accounted for by the great diminution of exports of cotton to the United Kingdom owing to the falling off in the demand for sea island cotton.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labourers in Government employ receive the following wages, viz. :—drivers 1s. 3d. per day; labourers, men 1s. and women 8d. per day. Payment at the rate of 2d. per barrel is made for broken stones. On the estates the same scale of wages now exists.

The cost of living for each labourer, not including housing and clothing, is averaged at 8d. per day.

A married couple from the United Kingdom can live on about £300 a year; a bachelor might manage on £250 per annum. Bungalows cost from £30 to £50 per annum. The charge at hotels is about 12s. per day—reduced charges can be arranged for long periods. Boarding-house charges are from \$1·50 to \$2·00 a day, or \$25 to \$30 a month. Native servants cost from 15s. to £3 a month.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

During the period under review there were 12 elementary schools in the island managed by the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan denominations, and one undenominational by the Montserrat Company, Limited, with the aid of grants from the Government. The aggregate number of pupils enrolled was 2,761, and the average attendance was 2,044. There is also a grammar school (secondary) for boys which is maintained by Government, and a secondary school for girls with a Government grant.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

There are about 68 miles of public roads and by-ways in the island. Motor cars and omnibuses are used, and motor lorries for the transport of produce.

There is a telephone system extending for about 75 miles throughout most of the island.

The Presidency is in communication with the outside world by wireless telegraph.

The ships of the Canadian National Steamships call regularly once a fortnight on their way from and to Canada. Steamers of other lines call occasionally. There is a frequent communication by sailing vessel with Antigua, and similar communication at intervals with other West Indian islands. The number of vessels calling at the port of Plymouth during 1931, was as follows:—steamers 86, sailing vessels 181.

ROADS.

The total approximate lengths of the roads of the Presidency are as follows:—

			<i>Miles.</i>
Main roads	...	...	24½
By-ways	...	...	44
Streets	...	...	2¾

There are no asphalt or concrete roads in the Presidency, the surface, in the case of the streets, main roads, and more important by-ways, being of water-bound macadam.

The expenditure on the roads (including streets) for the last five years is as follows :—

1927-8.	1928-9.	1929-30.	1930-1.	April to December, 1931
£	£	£	£	£
1,114	995	1,147	1,107	907

TELEPHONES.

The telephone service is of the metallic circuit system and connects up the most populous districts of the Presidency. There are sixty-eight instruments in use of which thirty-nine are subscribed for by private individuals and companies, while the remainder represents the number of installations in Government offices and institutions.

The revenue and expenditure of the telephone service for the last five years are as follows :—

	1927-8.	1928-9.	1929-30.	1930-1.	April to December, 1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	288	241	291	332	253
Expenditure ...	332	364	405	439	252

There are approximately 150 miles of line wire employed in the system.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There is a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada in the Presidency. The Bank issues its own notes.

The Bank has a Savings Bank Department and pays 3 per cent. interest on deposits.

There is a Government Savings Bank, and interest at the rate of 3 per cent. is paid on deposits. The following is a statement of the Bank's transactions during the past two years :—

Year.		Amount of deposits during the year.	Amount of withdrawals during the year.	Number of depositors at end of year.	Rate of interest.	Amount standing to credit of depositors.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Per cent.	£ s. d.
1929-30	...	401 1 7	528 16 10	104	3	658 0 9
1930-31	...	307 12 6	301 1 2	106	3	661 12 1

CURRENCY.

All coins of the United Kingdom are in use.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures of the United Kingdom are in use.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The staff of this Department consists of the Commissioner who is *ex officio* Superintendent of Public Works, an Inspector of Works and Roads, a Clerk and Storekeeper, and other employees.

The Department is responsible for the construction, maintenance, and improvement of public buildings, jetties, roads, the telephone service, and water-works, the control and preservation of Government lands and historic sites, the operation and management of the refrigerating and ice plant, and the lighting of the streets of Plymouth and Government House.

In addition to the usual repair of public buildings, streets, roads, bridges, etc., the following works were carried out during the financial period April to December, 1931 :—

- (a) The construction of a refrigerating and ice plant under loan from the Colonial Development Fund was completed and brought into operation.
- (b) A public market building, steel framed and covered with galvanized iron, with a floor space of 3,500 square feet, was constructed in the town of Plymouth.
- (c) The water-supply was extended to the village districts of Banks and Victoria.
- (d) An addition to the Court House to provide chambers for the Chief Justice and Judges visiting the Presidency on circuit.
- (e) A road roller (Barford and Perkins BK type) of 4·3 tons rolling weight was obtained for use on the streets and roads.
- (f) A public latrine was constructed at Wapping in the town of Plymouth.
- (g) A windmill tower at Tar River Estate was converted into a public hurricane shelter.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

Justice is administered by a Magistrate (the Commissioner *ex officio*). Either the Chief Justice from Antigua or the Puisne Judge from Dominica visits the island for the holding of Circuit Courts three times a year. During 1931, the number of cases in all Courts decided by the Magistrate was 1,749. The Circuit Court was particularly heavy during 1931, 42 cases being investigated. The summary jurisdiction of the Magistrate is regulated by Federal Law, and includes the imposition of fines with an alternative of imprisonment or the recovery of the fine by warrant of distress. Power is given to Magistrates in the Colony to order the payment of fines by instalments.

POLICE.

The Police are a small but smart and efficient force consisting of a Sub-Inspector, and 14 non-commissioned officers and men. The Montserrat Division is part of the Leeward Islands Police Force. They were active during the year in rounding up smugglers and obeh men, several convictions being obtained for these offences.

PRISONS.

The prison is always scrupulously clean and neat, and a high standard of discipline is maintained. Unfortunately, the place is much too small, and there is not sufficient room for exercise. For these reasons, male prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for six months or over, and female prisoners to two months or over are sent to the Central Prison at Antigua.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year 1931 :—

1. Appropriation.
2. Housing.
3. Cotton Seed Control Amendment.
4. Public Library.
5. Reafforestation of Lands Ordinance, 1927, Amendment.
6. Cotton Export Duty (Amendment).
7. Appropriation.
8. Supplementary Appropriation.
9. Board of Health (Amendment).
10. Liquor Licences (Amendment).
11. Plymouth Improvement (Amendment).

The following Statutory Rules and Orders were made during the year :—

1. Importation of Animals. 22nd January, 1931.
2. Montserrat Grammar School. 9th March, 1931.
3. Plants Protection. 10th April, 1931.
4. Dangerous Drugs. 23rd April, 1931.
5. Cotton Close Season. 5th May, 1931.
6. Plants Protection. 23rd April, 1931.
7. Montserrat Grammar School. 13th July, 1931.
8. Weights and Measures. 23rd July, 1931.
9. Customs Duties. 13th November, 1931.
10. Cotton Close Season. 25th November, 1931.

There is no factory legislation, or provision for compensation for accidents, sickness, old age, etc.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Presidency for the past five years :—

REVENUE.

Year.	£		£
1927-28	22,426		
1928-29	30,330	Includes receipts from Hurricane Insurance ...	1,681
		" " " Imperial Grant ...	2,500
1929-30	27,389		
1930-31	28,376	Includes receipts from Colonial Development Fund	2,200
		from Reserve Fund ...	1,000
Apr. to	26,083	" " " Colonial Development Fund	3,915
December		and balance of Reserve Fund	8,734
1931			

EXPENDITURE.

Year.	£		£
1927-28	19,986		
1928-29	32,277	Includes hurricane damage ...	9,243
1929-30	31,007	" " " " ...	4,128
1930-31	31,196	" Colonial Development Scheme ...	2,391
Apr. to	24,517	" " " " ...	2,759
December			
1931			

The public debt of the Presidency amounted on 31st December, 1931, to £13,000, and the accumulated sinking funds of the various loans amounted on 31st March, 1931, to £8,450.

On 31st December, 1931, the Presidency had no reserve fund, it having been realized in consequence of the deficit in the finances.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each for the financial period April to December, 1931, are as follows :

	£
Customs	9,451
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not other-wise classified	979
Fees of Court and Office, etc.	839
Posts, Telegraphs, etc.	1,383

There is a Customs tariff, consisting of an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. general and 10 per cent. preferential on imports. Also the following specific duties :—

Import.	General.	Preferential.
Flour	9s. per 196 lb.	7s. per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	4s. 2d. per 100 lb.	2s. 1d. per 100 lb.
Butter, etc.	15s. " "	8s. 4d. " "
Biscuits (unsweetened)	4s. 2d. " "	2s. 1d. " "
Lumber, pitch pine	12s. 6d. per 1,000 ft.	8s. 4d. per 1,000 ft.

Duties on exports are as follows :—

Cotton—clean lint	1d. per lb.
Cattle	10s. per head.
And other items.	

There is an excise duty of 4s. 6d. per proof gallon on rum manufactured locally, and of 4s. 10½d. per proof gallon on rum manufactured in and imported from any of the other Presidencies of the Colony.

Stamp duties are levied under the Federal Stamp Act, on various legal documents, including the probate of wills and letters of administration.

Road tax is payable under the Road Ordinance, 1907, by every male person between the ages of 16 and 60, and the rates are as follows :—

1st class (proprietors, merchants, etc., and public officers with salaries of £50 a year or more, etc.), 10s. a year.

2nd class (tradesmen, clerks, public officers with salaries of £20 a year or more, etc.), 4s. a year.

3rd class (domestic servants, labourers, etc.), 2s. a year.

The tax is payable at the Treasury on or before 30th June in every year. Persons comprising the third class may in lieu of payment of the tax elect to work on the public road for five working days.

In case of default of payment of the tax, or giving of labour on the public roads (in the case of persons in the third class), proceedings are taken before the Magistrate, and the defaulters can be fined with the alternative of imprisonment.

The yield from the tax for the financial period April to December, 1931, was £169.

APPENDIX.
HOUSING.

Province, County, District, or Parish.	Total population.	Number of Separate Dwelling Houses and of Persons inhabiting them.					Number of Barracks, Compounds, Tene- ments, Houses, etc., and of persons inhabiting them.		Number of Native Huts and of persons inhabiting them.	
		Houses of one room.	Inhabi- tants.	Houses of two rooms.	Inhabi- tants.	Houses of three rooms and over.	Inhabi- tants.	Barracks, etc.	Inhabi- tants.	Huts.
St. Anthony's	7,661	455	2,730	384	3,456	123	1,475			
St. George's	2,700	198	1,188	140	1,280	21	252			
St. Peter's	1,989	170	1,020	97	873	8	96	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	12,350	823	4,938	621	5,609	152	1,823			

A Town planning Scheme is in progress by the purchase of land near the Town of Plymouth for residences of the better class.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Virgin Islands were discovered by Columbus in 1493 ; they consist of a cluster of islands to eastward of and adjacent to Porto Rico ; the largest of the group belonging to Great Britain is Tortola, which is situated in 18° 27' North latitude, and 64° 39' West longitude. These islands, so far as they are British, became so in 1666.

The British islands (about 32 in number) include Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, Jost Van Dykes, Peter Island, and Salt Island. The total area of the Presidency is about 58 square miles.

The climate is more healthy than that of other West Indian islands and the heat is not so great.

The rainfall during the year was 64·16 inches and was well distributed.

A high wind was experienced on 10th September which caused considerable damage to growing crops.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Government is vested solely in the Governor of the Colony. There is an Executive Council consisting of the Commissioner, two official, and two unofficial members, which acts as an advisory body, and for whose advice the Governor frequently calls before enacting any new legislation. In the absence of the Governor the Commissioner, as head of the Civil Service, carries out the duties of the Officer Administering the Government.

During the year the Commissioner was absent from the Presidency for about four months and the Medical Officer, who is the Senior resident member of the Executive Council, was appointed to administer the Government.

III.—POPULATION.

The estimated population was 5,040. The births amounted to 198, or 3·96 per cent. of the population, and the deaths, including still-births, to 83, or 1·65 per cent. of the population. Eleven marriages were performed during the year. Immigration was negligible. The total number of emigrants was 57 or 11·3 per thousand but most of these were to Santo Domingo where they work as labourers and return sooner or later.

IV.—HEALTH.

The health of the Presidency was good as usual. There were no extensive epidemics, only mild ones of dysentery and whooping cough at Virgin Gorda. There were four cases of typhoid without any deaths. Malaria was almost non-existent. There was an

increase in respiratory diseases owing to an abnormally wet year. The preponderance of deaths in adults was from chronic heart disease and in infants from gastro-enteritis. A total of 116 were treated in the hospital. There were eight cases of yaws attending for treatment at the end of the year. All returned immigrants were inspected by the Medical Officer.

V.—HOUSING.

The housing conditions in the Virgin Islands, while possibly not ideal, are considerably better than those prevailing elsewhere in the Colony. The average house of the peasant is a sturdy wooden building measuring about 20 feet by 15 feet with an acre or two of arable land. The present living conditions seem eminently suitable to the population which consists almost entirely of small land-owners and fishermen. The wage-earning population is very small, being practically restricted to the limits of the town. Sanitary conditions are satisfactory and the general health is good. A local Board of Health controls the general health and sanitation and makes regulations for the general observance of and compliance with the sanitary regulations of larger places, in so far as they are applicable.

Practically all houses are owned by the occupiers and the general conditions may be described as clean and healthy.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The produce consists of live stock, fish, and vegetables. Cattle, horses, sheep, and goats comprise the main items in the live stock industry. Poultry raising is an important secondary industry. The following figures show the estimated annual production, etc. :—

			<i>Produced.</i>	<i>Exported.</i>	<i>Used locally.</i>
Cattle ...	...	Number	1,000	900	100
Sheep ...	...	"	500	450	50
Goats ...	...	"	3,000	2,250	750
Poultry ...	...	"	2,000	1,000	1,000
Swine ...	...	"	500	400	100
Fish ...	...	... lb.	38,000	18,000	20,000
Vegetables ...	...	"	7,000	3,000	4,000

There is no organized production. Practically the entire production is in the hands of individual agriculturists. No arrangements for contract or non-contract labour are in force, and owing to the fact that practically everyone is possessed of his own portion of land paid labour is difficult to obtain.

There is practically no cultivation by European landowners. Cigar-making has been tried, but it did not prove very successful.

The owners of large quantities of land produce a fair amount of sugar-cane which is converted into sugar and rum. The entire output of this industry is consumed locally.

GENERAL.

The economic condition was, generally speaking, unsatisfactory, due to the loss of St. Thomas as a market for local produce ; consequently there has been a steady all-round decrease in planting. Fruit and vegetables were plentiful, but the prices realized were disappointing. Under present conditions the Botanic or Experimental Station is a needless expense. Cotton is unsaleable, at least for the present. Cigar-tobacco, although of good quality, has proved unprofitable. Coco-nuts exceed the demand. In short, there is no market for increased quantities of local produce. The raising of stock continues, but sales are slow and prices low. The department maintains a "Kentucky Jack" and small but hardy mules are being raised here again. The demand is poor. Captain Hassell, the only regular purchaser in the past, states that he finds increasing difficulty in disposing of mules and horses however cheap they may be.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The imports during the past five years were :—

	£
1927	28,650
1928	29,789
1929	26,929
1930	14,360
1931	8,967

The trend of imports can be seen from the following table :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	2,497	2,217	1,978	1,918	1,568
United States	5,296	5,801	6,404	4,847	3,571
Leeward Islands*	12,010	15,320	10,782	3,000*	444
Other places (including the Virgin Islands) of the United States of America.	8,847	6,451	7,765	4,595	3,384

28,650	29,789	26,929	14,360	8,967
--------	--------	--------	--------	-------

* Alcoholic liquors imported.

FLOW OF TRADE.

The Virgin Islands of the United States of America have always bought most of the produce of the British Virgin Islands and they naturally also rank first among the places from which imports come. During the year there has been, however, a marked change in the origin of wheaten flour, one of the chief items of imports. Formerly practically all flour came from the United States of America, but in the year under review Canadian flour has largely supplanted the

American brands. Part of the marked decrease in the amount of the imports is due to the somewhat lower prices which have prevailed during the year. The great drop, however, is obviously due to the practical cessation of the alcoholic liquor trade with the Leeward Islands.

EXPORTS.

The exports during the last five years were :—

	£
1927	12,381
1928	11,799
1929	16,075
1930	11,244
1931	8,424

The following shows the trend of the exports :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	576	59	72	801	11
British West Indies	326	391	4,606*	788	548
Porto Rico and Virgin Islands	11,479	11,349	11,399	9,655	7,865
of the United States of America.					

Total	12,381	11,799	16,077	11,244	8,424
--------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	-------

* Tobacco.

Practically the entire trade is with the Virgin Islands of the United States. During the year, however, a brisk trade with the French Islands of St. Martin and St. Bartholomy in cattle, horses, and mules has been started. There is an intermittent trade with Barbados in the horse and mule trade, but with the increasing use of motor agricultural implements this is gradually lessening.

There seems to be no hope for trade with the United Kingdom in the near future as there are no available means of direct communication (*vide* Chapter X).

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages are at the same high level which obtained towards the close and immediately after the Great War. They range between 50 per cent. and 100 per cent. higher than the rates which are current in the other Presidencies of the Colony as the following list shows :—

Labourers—men	2s. to 2s. 6d. a day.
„ women	1s. 3d. a day.
Carpenters	6s. a day.
Masons	4s. to 6s. a day.
Blacksmiths and tinsmiths	6s. a day.
Domestic servants	£1 to £1 12s. 0d. a month.

The cost of living has not decreased considerably. The prices of some commodities are appreciably lower than they were ten years ago, notably in such food-stuffs as meat, milk, and eggs, but on the whole the prevailing prices are high, being based on the current prices at the adjacent island of St. Thomas where American rates rule the market.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education in the Presidency is entirely of a primary standard. There are no secondary or technical schools. The various schools are owned by the churches and are run on denominational lines. They are, however, largely assisted by grants from the Public Treasury. These grants amount to £650 per annum. Attendance at school is compulsory for all children between six and twelve years of age. The number of children on the registers of the various schools was 1,332 and the average daily attendance was 913.

There were no prosecutions for non-attendance during the year. School gardens were maintained at all the schools.

The annual examination was held in April when the Federal Inspector of Schools visited the Presidency. The Pupil Teachers' Examination was held in August by the Educational District Officer.

There are no welfare institutions in the Presidency.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

EXTERNAL.

There is no direct ocean communication with the principal ports of the world. All passengers and cargo have to be transhipped at St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands of the United States of America. as no steamers call at Tortola. There is, however, daily communication with St. Thomas by means of small fishing and trading sloops, and a regular weekly service is maintained by the Government, whose motor launch takes less than three hours to do the journey between the two islands.

There is irregular communication with the other islands of the Colony and with Barbados, Trinidad, and the Dutch and French West Indies, by means of schooners and other sailing craft.

INTERNAL.

There are no railways, telegraphs, telephones, or wireless. The horse is the only means of conveyance over the roads which are not built for vehicular traffic.

POSTS.

Twice weekly mails are received from the United Kingdom and the United States of America. They are sent via New York and Porto Rico. The average time taken for delivery of letters from

the United Kingdom is about a fortnight after the date of posting. The money order system is in operation and money can be remitted through the Post Office to practically any part of the world.

SHIPPING.

The number of departures of vessels was 1,404 and the number of arrivals 1,421, including 22 schooners or vessels of over 40 tons burthen. There were fewer schooners taking passengers due to the decrease in the number of emigrants leaving the Presidency for Santo Domingo. The schooners chiefly brought sugar from Santo Domingo. The number of departures of emigrants was 57 and the number of immigrants 48. Of the latter 41 were returned labourers from Santo Domingo and 7 were from the United States of America.

The United States ship *Umqua* brought the Governor of the American Virgin Islands to pay a visit to the Presidency. The Dominican steamer *Romanila* brought 16 returned emigrants from Santo Domingo. The British yacht *Uldra* with a crew of two arrived from England via Antigua and Anguilla in December.

In February the Greek steamer *Captain Rokos* stranded on Norman Reef, Anegada, and became a total wreck.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

BANKING.

No commercial banks operate in the Presidency. All banking is done through the Danish National Bank at St. Thomas. There is a local co-operative bank, the "Peasants' Agricultural Bank," the aim of which is to assist temporarily embarrassed agriculturists. This continues to run satisfactorily.

There is a Government Savings Bank in the Presidency, and interest of 2½ per cent. is paid on deposits. The following is a statement of the Bank's transactions during the past two years :—

Year.	Amount of deposits during the year.			Amount of withdrawals during the year.			Number of depositors at end of year.	Rate of interest.	Amount standing to credit of depositors.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		Per cent.	£	s.	d.
1929-30 ...	1,059	5	6	985	16	10	132	2½	1,382	0	7
1930-31 ...	1,335	19	1	1,087	2	4	141	2½	1,630	17	4

CURRENCY.

In normal times the currency consists almost entirely of Danish and American notes and silver. It is feared that this will have to continue so long as there is no bank in Tortola, as the merchants

have to settle their accounts for imported merchandise through the nearest and most convenient medium, viz., the bank at St. Thomas. Added to this, the fact that all imports have to pass through St. Thomas makes it necessary that a fair amount of foreign money must be in circulation as all expenses of freight and landing and shipping charges are quoted in American currency.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The United Kingdom standard of weights and measures is in use in the Presidency.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Annually recurrent work consists of the usual repairs to buildings, wharves, and roads. During the year one small bridge was built at Cane Garden Bay to facilitate traffic during the heavy rains.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Commissioner is also the Magistrate of the district, and weekly courts are held.

Once a month Summary Court is held by the Deputy Judge (the Commissioner).

The same machinery of justice which obtains in the other islands of the Colony obtains in the Virgin Islands, the basis of the law being the Common Law of England.

There were 129 prosecutions in the criminal side of the Magistrate's Court during the year. Of these 72 were fined, 1 juvenile offender was whipped, 9 were committed to prison, 13 were cautioned, 15 were settled out of court, and 19 were dismissed.

There were 91 suits in the civil side of the Magistrate's Court and 14 in the Summary Jurisdiction Court. Three cases went to the Supreme Court which was held in December with His Honour the Chief Justice of the Leeward Islands sitting as Judge.

Prisoners sentenced to short periods of imprisonment are kept at the local gaol where there is ample provision for sleeping accommodation, etc. The Medical Officer periodically inspects the prisoners and generally looks after their health.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

No new legislation was enacted during the year.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The reserve fund at 31st December, 1931, remained at £10,090 10s. 10d. The investments on account of this fund had a market value of £9,561 15s. 6d. on 31st December, 1931.

Working on the basis as advised by the Financial Adviser, the period opened with :—

						£	s.	d.
Reserve Fund	...	...	...	...	...	10,090	10	10
Surplus	...	...	...	...	...	2,789	6	2½
or a total surplus of						12,879	17	0½
The expenditure was	...	...	...	...	...	5,298	7	2
						7,581	9	10½
The revenue amounted to	...	...	...	...	...	4,047	13	1
Leaving a total surplus of						£11,629	2	11½
						£	s.	d.
Of this sum the reserve represents	...	...	...	...	...	10,090	10	10
and the floating surplus balance	...	...	...	...	...	1,538	12	1½
						£11,629	2	11½

The revenue of the Presidency amounted to £4,047 13s. 1d. or £548 6s. 11d. less than the estimated amount. The decrease was due to the practical cessation of the sale of liquor, and to the fact that Canadian flour was imported at the preferential rate of duty instead of the usual foreign (American) flour.

The expenditure amounted to £5,298 7s. 2d. or £284 12s. 10d. less than the estimated figure. There was a decrease in the expenditure on the Agricultural Department of £247 due to the fact that the office of curator was not filled during the greater part of the year.

The Presidency has made no loan and it has no public debt. The value of the imports amounted to £8,967 being £5,393 less than the imports in 1930.

Exports during the year totalled £8,424 or £2,820 less than in 1930.

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.	9d. (10d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
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British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery.	2s. (2s. 2d.).
Wool Quality : A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth.	£1 1s. (£1 1s. 9d.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927-30. (E.M.B. 46.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
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The Storage of Tropicallly-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
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(Unfederated Malay States)

Report for 1931 (Part)
(18th May—31st December)

(For Report for the year 1348 A.H. (8th June, 1929—27th May, 1930) see No. 1522 (Price 1s. 3d.), and for Report for the year 1349 A.H. (28th May, 1930—17th May, 1931) see No. 1565 (Price 1s. 3d.))

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REPORT ON THE STATE OF TRENGGANU FOR THE YEAR 1931 (PART)

NOTE

The last Report was for the year A.H. 1349 and covered the period 28th May, 1930 to 17th May, 1931. It was however decided in 1931 to adopt the Western Calendar for official use in Trengganu in all financial matters; and Reports will henceforward follow that Calendar.

This Report deals, unless otherwise stated, with that part of 1931 not covered by the A.H. 1349 Report, *i.e.*, the period 18th May to 31st December, 1931. This period is referred to hereafter in this Report as "1931 (part)".

As the figures in this report are for a period of rather less than eight months, the usual comparisons with the corresponding figures given in previous Reports have been omitted. Appendix A however contains the figures for A.H. 1349 and if those are reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$, a rough comparison can be made with the figures given in Chapter I to XI of this Report.

PREFATORY NOTE

A.—GEOGRAPHICAL

Trengganu is a Malay State on the East Coast of the Malay Peninsula lying between the parallels of 4° and 5°55" North latitude and the meridians of 102°20" and 103°30" East longitude. It is bounded by Kelantan on the North and North-west, by Pahang on the South and South-west, and by the China Sea on the East. Its inland boundaries follow the watersheds of its biggest rivers—the Besut, Trengganu, Dungun and Kemaman. The area of the State is computed to be about 5,000 square miles. The length of the State is about 150 miles and its greatest breadth is about 55 miles. The Western and inland half of Trengganu is mountainous and almost uninhabited. The population is concentrated on the rivers and along the coast-line. The highest peak is Gunong Batil (4,985 feet).

2. *Rivers.*—The country is divided into sixteen river basins, all flowing into the China Sea. The Trengganu and Kemaman rivers can be entered at favourable stages of the tide by the coasting steamers. The other rivers, though some of them are of considerable size, are open to small craft only on account of the sand bar.

3. *Islands.*—The Perhentian, Redang, Kapas and Tenggul Islands belong to the State. Perhentian and Redang have always been considered to offer good harbourage in all weather prior to an accident to Sea Belle II in Muharram 1349 when she ran on an uncharted reef near the Perhentian Islands. Kapas offers very safe anchorage in the North-east monsoon.

4. *Minerals.*—Trengganu is possibly rich in minerals, though its wealth has not been definitely established in respect of tin. The latter seems to be mostly found in the Southern half of the State. Wolfram, graphite, haematite, magnetite and monazite have also been found.

B.—HISTORICAL

5. The early history of Trengganu is obscure. A Chinese Buddhist monk and traveller, Chao Ju Kua, mentions it among places subject to the old Kingdom of Palembang. The "Nagarakretagama" speaks of both Trengganu and Dungun as tributary to Majapahit. The "Hikayat Hang Tuah" tells how Hang Jebat and Hang Kasturi slew a Trengganu prince, Megat Panji Alam, on the steps of the palace of the Ruler of Pahang.

6. In 1923 a remarkable Malay inscription, dated 702 A.H. (1303 A.D.) was deciphered in Trengganu. The stone bearing it was found at Kuala Brang, a place 20 miles up stream from Kuala Trengganu. The language of the inscription is Malay with an admixture of Sanskrit and Arabic, and the script Arabic, a combination for which there is no parallel before the year 1468 A.D. The subject of the inscription is the Islamic law of sexual offences. It is far the earliest known record of Islam as a State religion in the Malay Peninsula, and it suggests the existence of a Muhammadan Kingdom in the upper Trengganu river a hundred years before the recorded date of the Islamic conversion of Malacca.

7. *Recent History.*—The Ruling House is descended from the BENDAHARA ABDUL HAMID of Johore, father of the non-royal BENDAHARA ABDUL JALIL, who became Sultan ABDUL JALIL SHAH of Johore in 1701. The present Ruler, Sultan SULAIMAN BADARU'L-'ALAM SHAH, K.C.M.G., is twelfth of the line. Pressure from the Siamese was felt early in the 18th century, and Sultan MANSUR (1730–1792) began to send an annual tribute of Bunga Mas to the King of Siam. Later this was sent triennially till in 1909 by treaty, Siam transferred her suzerainty to Great Britain. A British Agent with Consular powers was appointed. The Treaty was amended in 1919, and the Agent was replaced by a British Adviser, whose advice must be asked and acted upon in all matters affecting the general administration of the country and all questions other than those touching the Muhammadan religion.

C.—CLIMATE

8. The North-east Monsoon, lasting from November to March, makes a distinct meteorological change in respect of temperature, wind and rainfall. The rainfall chart shows a sharp rise in November and an abrupt fall early in the year. The highest recorded annual rainfall on the coast is 165.5 inches: the average is about 120 inches.

The heat is tempered in the coastal regions by land and sea breezes, and the climate is pleasant and healthy.

D.—POPULATION

9. The population at the 1931 Census was 179,789: 92,354 males and 87,435 females. The division by race was:—

Malays	..	..	..	164,564
Chinese	..	..	..	13,254
Indians	..	..	..	1,371
Europeans	..	..	..	35
Eurasians	..	..	..	15
Other nationalities	..	..	..	550

E.—GOVERNMENT

10. The State is governed by His Highness the Sultan in consultation with his State Council. The State Council consists of 16 members all of whom either hold some Government post or are pensioners of Government. There is no unofficial representation.

11. As regards local Government, Town Boards are appointed for the principal centres of population and these Boards, on which there is unofficial representation, function in accordance with the Municipal Enactment No. 5/1341.

The above notes are reproduced from the report for A.H. 1349.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF TRENGGANU FOR THE YEAR 1931 (PART)

I.—Financial

A.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue collected during 1931 (part) amounted to \$676,338 against an Estimate of approximately \$844,480.

2. The Expenditure was \$845,556 against an Estimate of approximately \$1,103,762.

3. Details of the revenue collected during 1931 (part) are as follows:—

<i>Heading</i>	<i>1931 (part)</i>
	\$
1. Farms	11,717
2. Marine	12,558
3. Chandu and Liquors	109,807
4. Customs	404,935
5. Land	50,229
6. Municipal	29,725
7. Police	13,118
8. Courts	12,769
9. Posts and Telegraphs	14,802
10. Miscellaneous	14,850
11. Land Sales	1,828

B.—LOAN ACCOUNT

The expenditure on Loan Account during 1931 (part) was \$130,206. Details of this expenditure are given below:—

	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	<i>(approx.)</i>	
	\$	\$
Loan No. III (\$1,500,000)		
Personal Emoluments	40,140	15,382
Kelantan Road (Kuala Trengganu Division)	134,700	90,770
Kelantan Road (Besut Division)	20,000	11,078
Bukit Payong—K. Brang Path	10,000	3,814
Survey of the road from Kemaman to Kuantan via Jabor	6,771	6,076
Survey of the road Bukit Jong—Batu Rakit	1,600	—
Metalling of roads in Besut	10,000	3,086
Total ..	223,211	130,206

II.—Police and Crime

Mr. E. BAGOT officiated as Commissioner of Police and TENGU MOHAMED as Assistant Commissioner.

The approved establishment at the beginning of 1931 (part) was 314 and the actual strength on 31st December, 1931 was 285. The number of men enrolled and re-enrolled in 1931 (part) was 16.

Discipline.—The number of offences recorded as having been committed by the rank and file was 222. Of this number 2 were offences against the law of the State and were tried by the Court, the balance of 220 being disciplinary offences which were dealt with by the Commissioner. Fourteen men were dismissed.

Training.—The curriculum of school training at the Central Station and the Depot was continued throughout the year.

Musketry.—During 1931 (part) 20 recruits fired the Recruits Musketry Course with the following results:—

First Class shots	..	..	..	nil.
Second Class shots	..	..	..	7
Third Class shots	..	..	..	8
Unclassified	..	..	..	5

Twenty-one officers, N.C.Os. and detectives fired the Revolver Course with the following results:—

First Class shots	..	..	..	3
Second Class shots	..	..	..	5
Third Class shots	..	..	..	5
Unclassified	..	..	..	8

Arms.—During the year all rifles at Head Quarters were stripped and browned.

Works and Buildings.—At the close of the year there were 37 Police Stations classified as follows:—

- 5 District Headquarters Stations,
- 4 Sub-District Stations,
- 25 Minor Stations,
- 3 Police Posts.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The Revenue collected in 1931 (part) was \$13,071, and consisted mainly of fees for licensing of motor vehicles and passes for slaughtering animals. Two hundred and thirty-four motor vehicles were licensed. The expenditure for 1931 (part) was \$90,739, against an estimate of approximately \$84,028.

Crime.—The total number of reports during 1931 (part) was 3,517. The following serious offences were reported:—

<i>1931 (part)</i>			
1. Murder and Homicide	..	..	4
2. Gang Robbery	..	..	—
3. Robbery	..	..	3
4. House-breaking	..	..	44
5. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt	..	..	8
6. Thefts (over \$100)	..	..	21
7. Causing death by rash act	..	..	1
8. Counterfeit notes	..	..	1
9. Mischief by fire	..	..	1
			—
			83
			—

III.—Legislation

The only Enactment passed during 1931 (part) was the Land Enactment, 1344, Amendment Enactment No. 1 of 1350.

One Regulation (*Peraturan*) and 19 Proclamations (*Ishtihar*) were issued.

The theoretical classification of *Peraturan* and *Ishtihar*, though not always observed hitherto, is as follows:—

A *peraturan* is a rule made under the sanction of some Enactment;

An *ishtihar* is an Order in Council which covers matters of temporary importance or provides temporary sanction pending the drafting and passing of permanent legislation.

2. *Courts.*—A Statement of the work performed by the Courts during 1931 (part) is given in Appendix B.

IV.—Public Works

The expenditure during 1931 (part) was as follows:—

\$			
Revenue Account	..	..	105,868
Loan Account	..	..	130,206
			—
			236,074
			—

The provision in the estimates for 12 months was:

			\$
Revenue Account	..	..	244,881
Loan Account	..	..	217,070
			<hr/>
			461,951
			<hr/>

The total expenditure was accordingly about \$72,000 less than the estimate for the period in question.

Road Maintenance.—At the close of the year there were 145 miles 53 chains of road in use. Of this length 32 miles 79 chains were lightly metalled (13 miles 15 chains having been treated with a bituminous coating), 36 miles 78 chains were gravelled, and 75 miles 56 chains were of earth formation. The gravelled and earth formations have to be closed to traffic at various times depending on weather conditions during the North East monsoon. The cost of maintenance for 1931 (part) was \$41,020 equivalent to \$430 a mile per annum.

Thirty-six miles 37 chains of paths in Kemaman and Kuala Trengganu districts were maintained at a cost of \$3,150 or at the rate of \$130 a mile per annum.

Buildings.—The total number of Government Buildings at the close of the year was 303, of which 5 were new buildings completed during the year. Fourteen old temporary attap buildings were either demolished or sold.

The expenditure on maintenance and repairs amounted to \$6,312.48 during this period of 8 months, which represents 89 per cent of the cost of the buildings over a period of 12 months. The total cost of Government Buildings was \$1,070,142.

School.—The Public Works Department School which was closed at the end of 1349 was not re-opened on account of financial stringency.

Electric.—The small electric light plants at the Istana Maziah and the Hospital were maintained. The Public Works Department Ice Plant which was closed in 1349 on the opening of a private ice making factory in the town of Kuala Trengganu was not put into operation during the period under review.

Road Construction.—The trunk road to the Kelantan boundary, a distance of 65 miles 60 chains, together with branches to Kampong Raja (Besut), a section towards Batu Rakit, and quarry roads, was completed as an earth formation in September, 1931, the total mileage being 79 miles 65 chains. His Highness the Sultan inspected the work and visited Kampong Raja in that month. Shortly after that, the North East monsoon season having set in, the road was closed to the public with a view to consolidation during the wet months.

This work was initiated in 1345 (1926) and took $4\frac{1}{2}$ years to complete. The unusually severe monsoon conditions which obtained in November and December of 1931 did some damage to sections in and about the neighbourhood of Kampong Buloh, but these were repaired before the fine weather set in.

The cost of construction of the 79 miles 65 chains of the Kelantan road was \$1,578,183 or roughly \$19,700 a mile.

The road to Kuala Brang which was begun in 1347 (1928) was completed in June, 1931, when it was inspected by His Highness the Sultan. The distance from Kuala Trengganu to Kuala Brang is $22\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The new work constructed during the period 1928–1931 was $16\frac{3}{4}$ miles. A section of 6 miles between Kuala Trengganu and Bukit Payong was completed before 1928. The total cost of the $16\frac{3}{4}$ miles was \$95,382 or an average of \$5,600 a mile.

No additions or alterations to roads in Kemaman District were made. The earth formation is being gravelled departmentally from maintenance as far as the small provision available will allow, and the gravelling has been extended to the Japanese mine at Machang Sa-tahun. The permanent bridge proposed for the Sungei Tebak crossing has not been constructed, but a very light temporary bridge has been erected which serves the immediate needs of the public.

Since construction has been finished, all foreign labour has been dispensed with, and maintenance gangs, in the work shops and on the road sections, consist of local Malays. There are no contractors in the State and all work is carried out departmentally.

Surveys.—A branch from the trunk road has been constructed for a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles towards Batu Rakit, and a road trace for the remaining distance of 5 miles 13 chains through easy country was surveyed. Plans and sections have been completed and when funds are available, it will be possible to complete an extension which will serve a considerable area of cultivated land and give an outlet to the village of Batu Rakit which has a large fishing trade.

The trace for another road, connecting Kemaman with Kuantan, has also been completed with plans and sections. The trace runs up the Jabor Valley and will open up good country, but sections will require some very heavy earthwork. The length is 29 miles 40 chains.

Staff.—On the completion of the loan programmes, and in consequence of the financial stringency which obtained during the year, considerable reductions of staff were made. Mr. G. T. F. WHITE, Executive Engineer, Kuala Trengganu, and Mr. P. MCNEE, Assistant Engineer, were not replaced when they went on leave, and the European staff of the Department now consists only of Mr. P. TRUMP, State Engineer, and Mr. G. O. DORRITY acting as Assistant Engineer at Kemaman.

V.—Land and Surveys

1. *Revenue*.—The revenue for 1931 (part) amounted to \$52,057 made up as follows:—

			\$	c.
Land rents, town and agricultural land	..		22,524	00
Land rents, mining land	..	..	7,441	00
Permits, Forest Produce	..	..	6,132	00
Licences to sell Forest produce	..	..	642	00
Prospecting Licences	..	..	—
Temporary occupation licence	..	..	5,815	00
Notice fees	..	..	242	00
Registration fees	..	..	1,442	00
Sale of plans	..	..	7	00
Surveys fees	..	..	5,297	00
Miscellaneous	..	..	1,230	00
		Total	50,772	00
Less revenue debit	..	..	543	00
Total annual revenue	..	..	50,229	00
Sale of town and agricultural land	..		983	00
Sale of mining land	..	..	845	00
Total annual revenue and land sales	..		\$52,057	00

Although these figures are for rather less than 2/3 of the year it is evident that there has been a serious drop in land revenue. Considerable leniency was shown in the measures taken for recovery of arrears and permission was given for payment of rent by instalments, though little use was made of it. It is possible that the actual ability of small holders to pay their dues has been underestimated.

2. *Alienation*.—The prevailing depression affected the demand for land and only 316 applications were received, of which 89 covering an area of 260 acres were approved.

The total area of land which has been brought on to the rent rolls as a result of alienation and settlement is 175,412 acres.

3. *Agriculture*.—It is estimated that the area cultivated with padi in 1931 (part) was about 50,000 acres, with an average yield of 170 gantangs to the acre, and though the accuracy of these figures cannot be guaranteed, it is probably safe to say that there has been an increase in the total area cultivated as compared with the previous year.

It cannot yet be said that *chedongan* (wet padi) has proved itself to give a better yield locally than other forms of cultivation, as will be seen from the appended summary for Kuala Trengganu and Besut.

		<i>Chedongan</i>		Other forms	
		acres	<i>gantangs</i>	acres	<i>gantangs</i>
Kuala Trengganu	..	21,215	4,056,400	8,299	2,101,285
Besut	..	7,307	831,551	1,453	147,309
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		28,522	4,887,951	9,752	2,248,594
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Average	..		172		230

On the other hand an attempt made to develop wet padi cultivation at Chukai (Kemaman) has been so successful that the area under cultivation was increased in 1931 (part) and further applications have been received for land for the 1932 planting.

There is a refreshing candour in the report received from one District officer who partly attributes the non-cultivation of 1,200 acres of padi land in his district to the fact that the owners were pre-occupied with their spinning tops!

4. *Mining*.—Interest in tin mining was influenced by the low price of the metal and the operation of the Tin Restriction Enactment. No prospecting licences were applied for. Four Mining Certificates and seven Mining Leases were cancelled.

Iron.—From June to October the export of iron ore from the Japanese mines at Machang Sa-tahun, Kemaman and Bukit Besi, Dungun considerably exceeded that for the corresponding period in 1930. Export was stopped as usual during the N.E. monsoon season when it is impossible to tranship the ore from lighters to sea-going steamers.

5. *Forests*.—The possibility of exploiting the *jelutong* (india rubber) areas in the districts of Kemaman, Paka and Dungun was investigated and a scheme drawn up for granting tapping licences in these areas. Inquiries were received as to working of *Keruing* (*dip-terocarpus cornutus*), *damar* (resin) and *taban* (*gutta percha*) areas.

The Chinese saw-mill in Kemaman continued operations throughout the period under review, though exports were restricted during the N.E. monsoon season.

6. *Staff*.—Mr. E. E. F. PRETTY acted as Commissioner of Lands and Mines until 15th July when he was relieved by Mr. J. R. NEAVE. Mr. R. P. CLEGG acted as Collector of Land Revenue, Kuala Trengganu until August 5th and Mr. R. E. TURNBULL succeeded him on October 10th. Mr. J. R. NEAVE was Collector of Land Revenue, Kemaman until 11th July and Mr. A. L. BIRSE was Collector there from 20th July until the end of the year. Mr. A. J. GRACIE was Collector of Land Revenue, Besut throughout the year 1931 (part).

B.—SURVEYS

Field Work.—The Superintendent of Surveys gives the following statements of field work completed during 1931 (part) :—

THEODOLITE SURVEY

Actual field cost	Lots	Acres	Chains	Average strength employed
\$7,968	192	3,497	15,814	5.1

In addition 3,317 chains of 1st class Traverses were run at a cost of \$1,709 and 2,040 chains of 2nd class Traverses for the control of demarcation at a cost of \$918.

DEMARCATIION

Actual cost	Lots	Acres	Chains	Average strength employed
\$10,295	5,654	8,901	62,012	10

This gives an average cost of \$1.82 for demarcating a lot of 1.58 acres.

In addition to the above figures, fieldbooks containing details of 1,676 lots, 4,457 acres, demarcated by Settlement Officers were received from Land Offices giving a total number of lots 7,330 demarcated during 1931 (part).

Office Work.—The Office work is shown in the following Statements :—

(a) THEODOLITE SURVEYS OF LOTS

Cost	No. of lots computed	No. of lots plan drawn	No. of lots Titles prepared	No. of lots in Land Office awaiting settlement
\$2,193	241	89	135	07

(b) DEMARCATIION

Cost	Lots mapped	Lots arranged into groups, sunprints prepared and sent to Land office for settlement	Lots for which settlement has been prepared
\$3,773	*7,330	9,205	1,628

* This number includes 1676 lots demarcated by Settlement Officers.

(c) RECORDS AND OTHER WORK

Computations were completed for six control traverses for which plans have been prepared.

Sixteen Standard or permanent Compilation Sheets were prepared.

Sunprints and tracings of 18 sheets were forwarded to the Land Offices.

The present position of demarcation in the State is estimated as follows:—

Estimated number of occupied holdings	Awaiting demarcation	Under action in office	With Land Office for Settlement	Settled	Total
107,000	35,670	18,947	28,286	23,938	71,171

Staff.—Capt. C. T. M. HUSBAND, Superintendent Survey Department, F.M.S. and S.S. was in charge of the Department assisted by Mr. C. NOBLE, Assistant Superintendent, Survey Department, F.M.S. and S.S.

VI.—Trade and Economics

FOR THE WHOLE YEAR 1931

The total trade of the State for the year 1931 was \$6,718,876 as against \$10,027,252 in 1930, a decrease of \$3,308,376. The excess of the value of exports over imports was \$661,064.

Details are given in Appendix C.

The total value of imports was \$3,028,906 as against \$4,799,763 in 1930. Comparative figures for 1930 and 1931 are given below in respect of the more important articles imported from all countries:—

Articles	Value	
	1930	1931
	\$	\$
Rice	1,397,651	951,524
Sugar	216,215	127,108
Tinned Milk	113,593	76,901
Tobacco, Cigarettes and Cigars	393,497	289,084
Cotton Stuffs	470,179	278,892
Petroleum	299,228	178,210
Silk and Silk Fabrics	50,308	22,678
Liquors	58,200	35,770
Motor Cars	48,268	16,627
Machinery	77,302	36,273

The total value of exports was \$3,689,970 as against \$5,227,489 in 1930. The principal exports from Trengganu to all countries were as follows:—

Articles	Value	
	1930	1931
	\$	\$
Copra	213,034	132,608
Dried Fish	1,329,201	779,994
Tin-ore	906,923	472,191
Wolfram	14,013	7,808
Hæmatite	374,920	870,995
Manganese	165,568	70,784
Para Rubber	933,464	415,667
Gambier	52,979	42,895
Areca-nuts	195,455	207,982
Pure Silk Sarongs	51,193	24,887
Half Silk Sarongs	10,039	2,292

VII.—Education

There were at the end of 1931 one English school and twenty Malay schools in the State, with 26 teachers, of whom 14 are pupils of the Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim, and 36 assistant teachers.

The number of Government schools with figures showing the total enrolment and average attendance during 1931 (part) is given below:—

—	No. of schools	Enrolment	Average attendance	Percentage of Attendances
English Schools ...	1	104	98	94
Malay Schools ...	20	2,212	1,745	79

The cost of the Education Department for 1931 (part) was \$28,296.

In 10 of the 20 Malay schools religious instruction is given in the afternoon, while in Kuala Trengganu there is also a class held in the afternoons for instruction in Arabic.

Three Trengganu boys were maintained at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar and four at King Edward VII School, Taiping. Six students were maintained at the Sultan Idris Training College for Teachers at Tanjong Malim. Unfortunately it is probable that, in view of the finances of the State, the number receiving special training in this way must be considerably reduced for the next few years.

2. *Boy Scouts*.—There is one troop of Boy Scouts for the State under a District Commissioner who is assisted by an Assistant

District Commissioner, a District Scout Master and various Scout Masters. One section of the troop, about 30 strong, is at Kemaman but the activities of the Troop are mostly confined to Kuala Trengganu where there are some 90 scouts recruited from the English school and the Malay schools. Out of this number 21 have been formed into a band. The Scouts include Cubs aged 10 years and upwards but only Scout instruction is given.

3. *Chinese Education.*—There are three Chinese schools in the State, at Kuala Trengganu, Kemaman and Dungun. They are managed by Committees and are supported entirely by voluntary subscriptions. The curriculum includes instruction in Mandarin Chinese and a certain amount of English. The numbers of the teaching staff and pupils in each school are follows:—

	Teachers		Pupils	
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls
1. Wee Sin School, K. Trengganu 	6	...	116	28
2. Hwa Keow School, Kemaman ...	4	...	100	...
3. Kong Hwa School, Dungun ...	1	...	40	...

VIII.—Public Health

The Medical Service for the State of Trengganu consists of:—

(a) KUALA TRENGGANU—

- (1) Central administration with central drug and equipment store.
- (2) State Hospital containing—
 - 4 Wards of 20 beds for males.
 - 1 Ward of 20 beds for females.
 - 1 Maternity ward of 8 beds of which 2 are reserved for 2nd class patients.
 - 1 Leper ward of 8 beds.
 - 2 Temporary wards of 20 beds each for males.
 - Laboratory.
 - Operation theatre.
 - Dispensary.
- (3) Town Dispensary.
- (4) Infant Welfare and Ante-natal Clinic.
- (5) Gaol hospital, with one ward of 8 beds.

(b) KEMAMAN—

Dispensary.

(c) DUNGUN—

Dispensary.

(d) KUALA BRANG—
Dispensary.

(e) BESUT—
Dispensary.

2. Three Travelling Dressers attend to Districts not mentioned above, with Kuala Trengganu, Setiu and Kemasek as respective centres of operation.

Four Government Vaccinators, one for each of the main divisions of the State, officiate also as Travelling Dressers.

3. Medical arrangements on Mines and Estates comprise the following:—

(a) Iron mines at Bukit Besi.—One fully equipped hospital for labourers consisting of a 30-bed ward, operation room, Dispensary, Laboratory, anti-malaria room, Office, Store, etc.

There is also a small hospital for the Japanese staff consisting of 5 single (or double) bedded wards.

(b) Kretay Plantations.—A hospital consisting of one 40-bed ward, one small room for females, Dispensary, Store, Office with small Laboratory, etc.

(c) Dispensaries and First aid stations exist on the following mines:—

Freda Tin Mines,
Bundi Tin Mines,
Sungei Ayam Mines,
Kajang and Machang Sa-tahun.

4. *State Hospital Statistics.*—The number of admissions to hospital during 1931 was 1949 compared with 1990 in 1930.

One hundred and fifty one surgical operations were performed, including 21 major operations.

Gaol Hospital Statistics.—There were 83 admissions with 1 death.

Statistics of total patients treated at all Government Dispensaries and at the Hospital.—The total number of patients treated during 1931 was 53,489 compared with 57,926 in 1930.

The prevailing diseases were:—

	1930	1931
Yaws	3,386	2,601
Diseases of Digestive System ..	10,357	10,632
Diseases of Skin	6,888	6,268
Diseases due to Intestinal Parasites	2,894	3,539
Fever unspecified	2,799	862
Malaria	5,775	5,408
Influenza	1,621	1,820
Diseases of the Respiratory System	1,437	1,357
Beri-beri	915	1,181

5. *Maternity Work*—

(a) *Kuala Trengganu hospital*.—There were 26 labours conducted at the hospital compared with 42 for 1930.

(b) *Districts*.—There were 130 labours conducted in the Districts by the Midwife (officiating as Maternity nurse) compared with 71 for 1930.

6. *Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinic*.—The Clinic is situated in the town of Kuala Trengganu. The work at the Clinic can be judged by the following returns for the year under review:—

Ante-natal.—Eighty-six women came for ante-natal examination.

Infant Welfare.—Seventy-four infants under 12 months were under observation during the year. Careful records were kept of these infants.

Eight hundred and eighty-eight children between the ages of 1 and 12 years were treated.

Nine hundred and seventy adult women were treated at the clinic.

In addition 487 school children were treated.

7. *Financial*—

<i>Income</i>		<i>1931 (part)</i>
—		—
		\$
Revenue from sale of medicines and hospital fees	.. ..	710
<i>Expenditure</i>		
—		
Personal Emoluments	.. ..	27,473
Annually Recurrent	.. ..	21,474
Special Expenditure	.. ..	—
Total		<hr/> \$48,947 <hr/>

8. *Staff*.—Dr. N. H. HARRISON officiated as Chief Medical Officer until 20th October, 1931. He was succeeded by Dr. J. PORTELLY as from 19th November, 1931.

The subordinate staff consists of 19 Dressers, 2 Midwives, 1 Steward, 1 assistant Store-keeper, 3 Clerks, 4 Vaccinators and 1 Sanitary Inspector.

IX.—Posts and Telegraphs

The following is a statement of the postal business done during 1931 (part) :—

Letters (including registered articles) papers and parcels received ..	178,409
Letters (including registered articles) papers and parcels despatched ..	111,141
Number of telegrams forwarded ..	12,698
Do. do. received ..	13,382
Value of Money Orders issued ..	\$67,869
Do. do. paid ..	\$17,653
Value of Insured articles received ..	\$16,228
Do. do. despatched ..	\$47,465

The revenue amounted to \$14,802 and expenditure to \$17,638.

X.—Prisons

The records for the admission and discharge of prisoners during 1931 (part) are as follows:—

—			Entered	Released	Sentenced to death	Escaped	Died	In gaol at end 1931
Males	...	...	154	140	...	...	...	92
Females	...	...	8	6	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	162	146	...	...	...	94

Seven thousand and twenty-one days of intra-mural labour were performed and four thousand seven hundred and four of extra-mural labour.

The revenue derived from the work done inside the Gaol was \$556. The industries carried on in the Gaol consist mainly in cutting firewood, which is sold to the public at a small profit, and in manufacturing various kinds of basket work. The bulk of the work done outside the Gaol is of an unskilled nature for various Government Departments.

XI.—General

His Excellency the High Commissioner visited the State in September.

His Highness the Sultan, who enjoyed good health throughout the year, paid official visits to Besut, Kuala Brang (headquarters of the Ulu Trengganu district) and Dungun, where he inspected the iron mine of the Nippon Mining Company.

The birthdays of His Majesty the King and of His Highness the Sultan were duly celebrated.

A son was born to His Highness the Sultan on 14th September.

The Officer-in-Charge of Fisheries, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, visited the State and reported favourably on its fisheries.

The road from Bukit Datu (on the left bank of the Trengganu river $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles above Kuala Trengganu) to the Kelantan boundary at Bukit Yong, a distance of approximately 66 miles, was completed on the 17th September, 1931. This road, which is connected with Kuala Trengganu by a ferry at Losong, affords the State a long-needed outlet by land to the north-west and to the railway; but as it is at present unmetalled for the greater part, further expenditure will be necessary to render it usable at the time when it is most wanted, *viz.*, during the North East monsoon season from November to March.

As the revenue derived from export duty on tin and rubber constitutes less than 9% of the total revenue of the State, the effect of the low prices of those commodities during the year was probably less felt in Trengganu than in other parts of the Peninsula. But even so it was hardly to be expected that the State would remain unaffected by the prevailing trade depression, and the fall in revenue generally was so serious as to necessitate drastic economies in expenditure. These were made effective by the end of the year and involved not only heavy pruning of Other Charges but also the retrenchment of a number of officers and a reduction of the salaries of those retained. His Highness the Sultan and the Chief Officers of State set a worthy example by voluntarily sacrificing an appreciable part of their emoluments, and a general diminution of pay throughout the Public Service has been loyally and uncomplainingly accepted.

C. C. BROWN,
Acting British Adviser,

Trengganu

KUALA TRENGGANU, 27th June, 1932.

APPENDIX A
STATISTICS FOR 1349

\$

A. REVENUE.—	1,235,230
1. Farms	..	..	..	19,046
2. Marine	..	..	..	22,582
3. Chandu and Liquors	..	..	..	244,994
4. Customs	..	..	..	680,704
5. Land	..	..	..	105,615
6. Municipal	..	..	..	45,342
7. Police	..	..	..	17,297
8. Courts	..	..	..	26,347
9. Posts and Telegraphs	..	..	..	29,105
10. Miscellaneous	..	..	..	29,197
11. Land Sales	..	..	..	14,995

B. EXPENDITURE.—

Total Revenue Account	..	..	1,445,709
Loan Account	..	..	591,619

C. POLICE AND CRIME.—

1. Revenue	..	..	..	17,297
2. Expenditure	..	..	..	151,534
3. Crime (serious offences)—				
Murder and Homicide	..	..	..	6
Robbery	..	..	..	5
House Breaking	..	..	..	45
Voluntarily causing grievous hurt	..	..	..	20
Causing death by rash act	..	..	..	33
Thefts (over \$100)	..	..	..	48
Counterfeit coins	..	..	..	3
Do. notes	..	..	..	2
Mischief by fire	..	..	..	3

165

D. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.—

					\$
Expenditure	..	..	..	..	44,754

E. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.—

Letters (including registered articles)					
papers and parcels received	..				311,506
Letters (including registered articles)					
parcels and papers despatched	..				196,548
Telegrams received	..		..		21,116
Do. despatched	..		..		20,321
Value of Money Orders issued	..				\$144,354
Do. do. paid	..		..		\$ 35,644
Value of Insured articles received	..				\$ 18,100
Do. do. despatched	..				\$110,730
Revenue	..	..	..		\$ 29,105
Expenditure	..	..	..		\$ 32,889

F. PRISONS.—**ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES**

—			Entered	Released	Senten- ced to death	Escaped	Died	In Gaol at end of 1349
Males	...	...	237	218	1	...	5	75
Females	...	...	11	11	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	248	228	1	...	5	78

Intra-mural labour	..		7,466 days
Extra-mural „	..		4,649 „
Revenue	..	..	\$995
Expenditure	..	..	\$18,575

APPENDIX B

STATEMENT OF WORK PERFORMED IN ALL COURTS DURING THE YEAR 1931 (PART)

Courts	1,349 cases undecided on 18-5-1931		No. of cases instituted		No. of cases disposed of		No. of cases pending at end of 1931	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
Appeal Court	10	1	21	4	28	2	3	3
Supreme Court—								
Original Jurisdiction	2	2	6	7	8	9	...	...
Appellate Jurisdiction	12	5	37	17	48	21	1	1
Special Court, Kemaman	3	3	19	11	17	13	5	1
Special Court, Besut	...	1	14	8	11	9	3	...
Magistrate's Courts:—								
Kuala Trengganu	21	30	206	675	205	675	22	30
Kemaman	4	6	189	269	77	265	16	10
Besut and Setiu	56	19	201	302	220	300	37	21
Kemasik, Kretai and Kijal	11	22	100	114	98	114	13	22
Paka	5	2	22	24	24	25	3	1
Dungun	2	4	50	104	41	100	11	8
Marang	1	2	19	59	20	61	...	...
Ulu Trengganu	10	2	32	84	37	81	5	5
Batu Rakit	9	16	21	52	15	59	15	9
Kathi, Kuala Trengganu	2	...	57	57	57	53	2	4
Total	148	115	994	1,787	906	1,787	136	115

APPENDIX C TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1931

19

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
A.—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO							
Rice	Pikuls	7,338	24,667	9,956	28,982	17,294	\$ 53,649
Dried fish	"	111,741	763,418	2,273	16,376	114,014	779,994
Blachan	"	7	57	2,444	20,707	2,451	20,764
Arecanuts	"	3,000	22,559	10,746	185,423	13,746	207,982
Salt	"	...	...	150	138	150	138
Sugar	"	...	...	9,959	43,879	9,959	43,879
Other Articles	Value	...	30,203	...	19,350	...	49,553
Total Class A	Value	...	840,904	...	315,055	...	1,155,959
B.—RAW MATERIALS							
Tin-ore	Pikuls	11,493	472,191	...	...	11,493	472,191
Copra	"	27,253	132,608	...	...	27,253	132,608
Para Rubber	"	29,535	386,814	1,745	28,853	31,280	415,667
Rattans	"	388	1,562	281	1,497	669	3,059
Gambier	"	68	2,502	1,481	40,393	1,549	42,895
Other Articles	Value	...	200,700	...	1,040,127	...	1,240,827
Total Class B	Value	...	1,196,377	...	1,110,870	...	2,307,247

APPENDIX C—Continued TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1931—Continued

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
C.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES							
Pure Silk Sarongs	Number	7,957	19,201	2,292	5,686	10,249	24,887
Half Silk Sarongs	"	1,087	2,248	22	44	1,109	2,292
Cotton Goods	Yards	...	...	16,296	2,770	16,296	2,770
Other Articles	Value	...	108,502	...	73,159	...	181,661
Total Class C	Value	...	129,951	...	81,659	...	211,610
D.—PARCEL POST							
Total Parcel Post	...	...	14,154	...	...	...	14,154
E.—COIN AND BULLION							
Total Class E	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	1,000

SUMMARY

Total Class A	...	...	...	...	\$ 1,155,959
" B	...	...	...	...	2,307,247
" C	...	...	...	...	211,610
" D	...	...	...	...	14,154
" E	...	...	...	...	1,000
Total Value of Export Trade	...	...	...	...	\$3,689,970

APPENDIX C—Continued

TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1931

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
A.—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO							
Rice	Pikuls	55,962	246,107	249,681	705,417	305,643	951,524
Milk	Cases	7,428	76,323	64	578	7,492	76,901
Salt	Pikuls	4,789	3,296	43,075	9,496	47,864	12,792
Sugar	"	28,399	123,416	881	3,692	29,280	127,108
Tobacco Cigarettes and Cigars	Lbs.	229,442	284,513	10,429	4,571	239,871	289,084
Other Articles	Value	...	335,986	...	28,434	...	364,420
Total Class A		...	1,069,641	...	752,188	...	1,821,829
B.—RAW MATERIALS							
Petroleum	Gallons	316,640	173,821	8,237	4,389	324,877	178,210
Other Articles	Value	...	69,264	...	9,332	...	78,596
Total Class B		...	243,085	...	13,721	...	256,806

APPENDIX C—Concluded

TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1931—Concluded

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
C.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES							
Dyed Cotton Goods	Yards	738,273	\$ 124,913	18,096	\$ 3,722	756,369	\$ 128,635
Threads	Lbs.*	40,635	16,696	24	18	40,659	16,714
Sarongs	Number	181,833	131,040	3,133	2,503	184,966	133,543
Machinery	Value	...	34,040	...	2,233	...	36,273
Silk and Silk Fabrics	Lbs.	9,575	22,643	4	35	9,579	22,678
Other Articles	Value	...	499,750	...	60,702	...	560,452
Total Class C		...	829,082	...	69,213	...	898,295
D.—PARCEL POST							
Total Parcel Post	Value	...	49,983	...	...	...	49,983
E.—COIN AND BULLION							
Total Class E	Value	...	1,993	...	...	...	1,993

SUMMARY

Total Class A	...	...	...	\$ 1,821,829
" B	...	...	...	256,806
" C	...	...	...	898,295
" D	...	...	...	49,983
" E	...	...	...	1,993
Total Value of Import Trade	\$ 3,028,906

899,295

49,983

1,993

69,213

829,082

49,983

1,993

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SUMMARY

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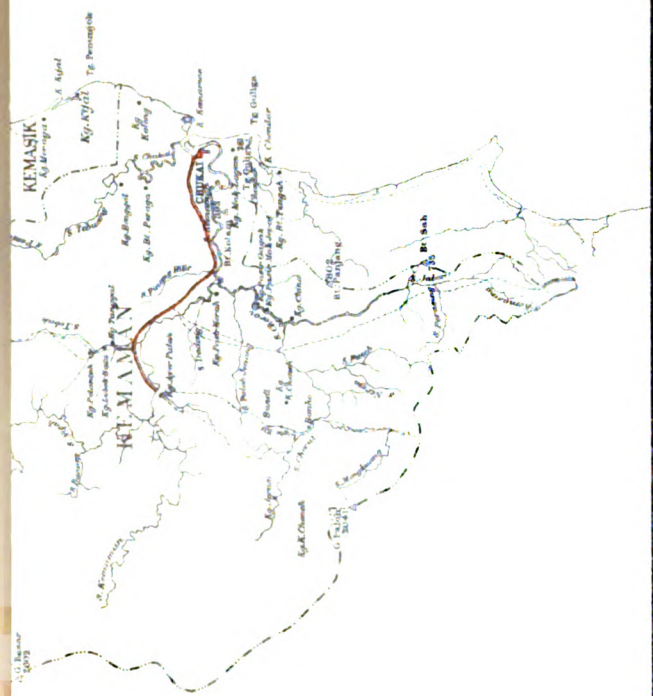
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(For Report for 1929 see No. 1484 (Price 6d.) and for
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Colony comprises 92 islands situated between the 4th and 10th parallels of South latitude, their aggregate area being estimated at 156 square miles.

Mahe is the central and largest of the islands, lying upon a submerged bank. It is the seat of Government and contains 21,712 of the population out of a total of 27,444. It has only one harbour, upon which is situated the town of Victoria where approximately one-third of the inhabitants of the island live, the remainder living in hamlets or on estates.

The area of the island is 51 square miles. It is of rugged granite formation, rising steeply from the sea to a central dividing range of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet in altitude.

The islands of Madagascar and Mauritius and the African coast (Mombasa) are approximately 1,000 miles distant in each case.

The other principal islands on the bank, also mostly of granite formation, are :—Praslin (9,700 acres); Silhouette (4,900 acres); La Digue (2,500 acres); Curieuse (900 acres); Felicite (800 acres); North Island (525 acres); Ste. Anne (500 acres); Frigate (500 acres); Denis (340 acres); Cerf (290 acres); and Bird or Sea Cow Island (160 acres).

The outlying islands are of coral formation. They extend to the 6th degree of South latitude, the farthest away and the most interesting, Aldabra, being 650 miles distant from Mahe. The names of all the islands are given on the sketch map at the end of this Report.

Climate.

The climate is pleasant on the whole and is quite healthy, there being no malaria, but it lacks bracing qualities. For the six months from about May in each year, the south-east trade wind is constant. This corresponds to the winter season elsewhere in southern latitudes. For the rest of the time, the north-west monsoon blows, but with less force, and for a part of this time the weather becomes uncomfortably warm. The maximum shade temperature rarely exceeds 86°F. but seldom falls below 74°. Variations in temperature are more noticeable than would be the case outside of the tropics. With the completion of motor roads now under construction it will be possible for many residents in the town to live at a higher and cooler altitude in the hot months.

The rainfall is heaviest between the months of November and April, but it is not confined to that season. It varies from 70 inches to 135 inches in a year, the average being 90 inches. The southern islands of the Colony are only just out of the range of the cyclone belt, within which Mauritius falls.

History.

The islands are believed to have been discovered by a Portuguese named Pedro Mascaregnas, 1505, but the discovery was not apparently followed by any attempt at colonization.

Previous to the French occupation they were the resort of pirates who infested the Indian Ocean, some of whose names are borne by descendants in Mahe at the present time.

Under the Government at Mauritius of Labourdonnais, whose name the islands originally bore, their position was first defined in 1743, and M. Picault, who took possession in the name of the King of France, called the principal island Mahe after Mahe de Labourdonnais. Later on the group was renamed the Seychelles Islands, in honour of the Vicomte Moreau des Sechelles, who was Controller-General of Finance under Louis XV from 1754 to 1756.

During the war of the French Revolution Mahe was extremely useful to French ships as a place of refuge and refitment, but on 17th May, 1794, it was captured by Captain Newcome, of H.M.S. *Orpheus*.

The last French Governor, M. de Quincy, who was born at Paris in November, 1748, became (after the departure of Lieutenant Sullivan, R.N., who had been placed in charge) the first Agent Civil under the British Government. M. de Quincy's reign as French Governor lasted 20 years. He remained for 18 years in the service of the British Government, and died on 10th July, 1827.

The capitulation was renewed in 1806, but it was not until the capture of Mauritius in 1810 that Seychelles was formally taken possession of by the appointment of an Agent, and incorporated as a dependency of that Colony. A board of Civil Commissioners was appointed in 1872, when the finances of the Seychelles were separated from those of Mauritius.

In 1897, the Administrator was given full powers as Governor, and Seychelles was practically separated from Mauritius. The separation was completely carried out in 1903, when Seychelles was by Order in Council, constituted a separate Colony under its own Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

During the French occupation, settlers, mostly from Mauritius, were placed on Mahe and the descendants of these form the majority of the European and mixed element, whose language is French. Slaves were also brought in from Mauritius and this class, after the British occupation, was greatly augmented by the fact of the Seychelles being chosen as a refuge for African slaves freed from time to time on the high seas by the Navy. In the conditions existing in Central Africa until late in the last century, it was not practicable to return these people to their homes. Their descendants to-day form the large majority of the population of the Colony. These have retained the cheerful, carefree characteristics of their forbears, but they have lost all tribal tradition and language and now speak a patois of French, locally known as Creole. All profess Christianity, most being of the Roman Catholic Faith, and they all bear French names, presumably given to their fathers on baptism. They are a simple and law-abiding people, keep themselves and their children surprisingly clean, but, as a class, they are very improvident.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Government organization is of the usual "Crown Colony" type. The Secretary of State for the Colonies is the responsible Home Authority.

A Governor and Commander-in-Chief exercises jurisdiction under the Common Law (the Code Napoleon), relative Imperial Orders in Council, and local Ordinances enacted by a Legislative Council consisting of the Governor, as President, three senior Departmental

heads and three unofficial residents appointed by the King on the nomination of the Governor, in the case of each of the latter, for a period of three years at a time. An Executive Council is composed of the Governor and the three Official Members of the Legislative Council and one Unofficial Member. In the absence of the Governor, the Chief Justice acts as Administrator of the Colony.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population of the Colony consists of the descendants of the early French settlers and of the African slaves, with an intermediate creole class. A few persons of United Kingdom birth are employed in the service of the Government and of the Eastern Telegraph Company, and a very small number are otherwise employed.

A census was taken on 26th April, 1931, shewing a total population at that date of 27,444 (13,289 males and 14,155 females), with the following distribution as follows:—

Mahe	21,712
Neighbouring islands	4,240
Outlying islands	1,492

The following are the more important vital statistics for the year:—

	1931	<i>Per 1,000 of population.</i>	1930	<i>Per 1,000 of population.</i>
Births	829	29·83	790	27·99
Deaths	376	13·53	395	13·99
Marriages	194	6·98	208	7·37
Infantile Mortality (deaths under one year)	68	82·03*	68	86·08*
Emigration	395	14·21	389	13·79
Immigration	502	18·06	623	22·08

* Rate per 1,000 births.

The census of 1931 was the fifth taken in the Colony. The following figures of population shew the rates of increase per decennial period:—

1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.
16,440	19,237	22,691	24,523	27,444

These figures may be taken to indicate increases by birth, since neither immigration nor emigration is on a large scale and, roughly, the numbers balance each other.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The health of the population generally is sound. Nevertheless the Colony is not immune from many ailments and the treatment of disease and the steps taken to conserve the health of the people must be referred to. Fortunately the anopheles mosquito has never been introduced, or, if so, has never obtained a hold, so that malarial fever, which is prevalent in most other places in the tropics, is unknown here. Occasional outbreaks occur of jaundice, whooping-cough, influenza, dengue fever, and chicken-pox. Except for an outbreak of bacillary dysentery confined to a particular district on the main island, there was no epidemic during the year under review, nor, in most years, do any of the above diseases occur to an alarming extent. Ankylostomiasis (hookworm) is common. For the treatment of this disease provision exists, and observance of hygienic principles is important, especially with respect to the provision and inspection of latrines. Neglect of proper precautions is dealt with by prosecution before the Courts.

The Medical Department is well staffed, organized, and equipped to deal with the medical needs of the people. A large hospital, well situated in the town of Victoria, affords accommodation not only to the sick poor, its primary purpose, but also to those who can afford to pay at first, second, or third class rates, all of which are very moderate. The staff, under the Chief Medical Officer, consists of a Resident Surgeon, who is also in charge of an X-ray and Electric Department, a Surgeon Dentist, four Nursing Sisters (of the Order of St. Joseph de Cluny), one Head Midwife and Matron of the Maternity Section, and seven Probationary Nurses undergoing training. A cottage hospital has also been provided to serve the needs of the people of Praslin and La Digue islands, with an Assistant Medical Officer in charge and a trained nurse. A third Medical Officer is in charge of the district of Anse Royale on the main island. Periodical medical inspections are made of the outlying islands in the interests of those employed there.

During the year, 907 cases were treated in the Seychelles Government Hospital.

The school children are given simple lessons in hygiene and it is hoped later on to supplement the ordinary teaching by the exhibition of films.

Leprosy is on the increase ; its incidence is confined mainly to the African labourers. A new leper settlement has been established on an island of 54 acres in extent and most of the lepers have been removed from a smaller island inadequate for its purpose. Forty-four lepers are isolated in the settlements and 48 others are under supervision. Treatment, especially in the earlier stages, is giving encouraging results. Visits of relatives are allowed under the conditions necessary. Most of the lepers have small gardens of their own and they keep pets, such as rabbits, pigeons, etc.

An asylum at Anse Royale exists for the reception and treatment of lunatics. There has been a slight decrease of late years in the number of these ; at present there are 20 inmates.

Tuberculosis is also on the increase to some extent. A modern tubercular ward, situated in the hospital grounds, was completed during the year for the isolation of patients.

The outlying islands contain no permanent residents. Most of them are planted with coco-nuts for which labour is engaged from the island of Mahe, all together absorbing about 1,500 men, women, and children. Conditions are good and there is little sickness. Some outbreaks of beri-beri have occurred in the past and another deficiency disease, known locally as "Decoque," is met with. The Government hopes when conditions permit to obtain the services of a research medical officer for investigation of the cause of the latter disease.

The Medical Department absorbs a considerable proportion of the revenue of the Colony, but it is money well spent.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The wage-earning population on estates are accommodated in small thatched huts made of leaves from the coco-nut tree. A fee is paid by the manager to erect the huts and when the labourer leaves the estate the huts remain the property of the employer. All materials are supplied by the estate. Many of the labourers do not reside on estates and, apart from the few who own a plot of ground, these rent a plot for one rupee (1s. 6d.) a month to erect a hut which, generally, is made of leaves. The more saving among them build wooden houses, roofed with galvanized iron and having two rooms and sometimes a verandah. Those renting a room in a house in the town generally pay from Rs.2 to Rs.3 per month. Sanitary Inspectors carry out a house-to-house inspection of all premises to enforce sanitary laws. There is no shortage of dwellings nor any congestion. There are no building societies.

The accommodation for labourers in the outlying islands consists of small thatched huts with walls covered with coco-nut leaves, the ground forming the floor. Certain huts are single, whilst others accommodate two to three families.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The chief exports of the Colony are the products of the coco-nut. The net export values of these products for 1931 were as follows :—

Coco-nut oil (3,550 litres)	...	...	Rs.880
Copra (4,874 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons)	...	...	Rs.665,854

Cinnamon, a jungle tree, is still exploited for its essential oil, which in spite of the fluctuation of price, remains the export product, second in importance, with an output of 54,795 litres, exported mainly to the United States of America, representing a value of Rs.256,372. Cinnamon bark exports amounted to 34½ tons, of a value of Rs.3,041. 3,915 litres of patchouli oil, valued at Rs.35,825, were also exported. Basilic oil (*Ocimum basilicum*) was also distilled on a small scale, yielding 12 litres with an export value of Rs.1,200. Mention should also be made of the vanilla industry, which, although gradually dying out, produced 980 kilos for exportation, representing a value of Rs.2,894. The Colony is adapted for the development of fisheries, which is now proceeding. One million pounds of fresh fish, representing Rs.400,000, are captured per annum for local consumption. 2,511 kilos of turtle strips worth Rs.2,389, 4,186 kilos of calipee worth Rs.6,521, and 1,433 kilos of shark fins worth Rs.2,031, were exported in 1931. The other fishery products are tortoise-shell, 1,008 kilos valued at Rs.19,775, and tripangs, 7,673 kilos valued at Rs.5,272. 95,750 kilos of birds' eggs yolk and albumen liquid worth Rs.30,501 were also produced.

Phosphatic guano was exported to the United Kingdom, Ceylon, Kenya, Mauritius, and New Zealand to the amount of 4,730 tons valued at Rs.63,350.

No geological survey has been made of the Colony, which is of granite formation with occasional dykes of basalt and intrusions of dolerite. Unproductive lands covering about one-third of the acreage of the Colony comprise outcrops of granite following erosion and coral reefs still in their position of growth. Other productive but uncultivated lands (13,597 acres) are being set out in coco-nuts and timber trees. Land under forest stretching over 2,500 acres, one-fifth of which is under commercial timber, produced 48,000 c.ft., at a local market value of Rs.20,000. Crops of tobacco, coffee, sugar-cane, maize, vegetables, and manioc, which, together with breadfruit and banana, are all consumed locally, are grown in areas totalling 508 acres.

The number of pigs in the Colony is 7,500. Other live stock comprise: horses, 100; asses, 100; mules, 9; cattle, 4,000; and goats 300. The yield of animal produce during the year under review was as follows:—

<i>Produce.</i>				<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Farm</i>
				lb.	<i>value.</i>
					Rs.
Butter	...	...	...	1,200	2,400
Cheese	...	...	...	600	900
Meat	...	...	...	70,000	28,000
Hides (mostly from calves)				3,500	2,000
Pork	...	...	...	36,000	12,960
Turtle meat	...	...	...	45,000	14,850

Every Seychellois is an agriculturist or a fisherman or both, Estates are run either by the owners themselves or leased to individuals on short terms.

Farm labourers under 15 years numbered	...	1,374
„ „ of 15 years and over numbered...		6,141
Fishermen numbered	... ..	1,100

There are no exploitable minerals in the Colony (except guano) and no manufactures. Baskets, straw hats, mats, etc., are produced but only in a very small way. All production is in the hands of individuals or small companies.

There is little cultivation beyond some manioc, pumpkins, etc., for their own use, by persons of non-European descent. These make no effort to save any part of their wages and so with few exceptions own no land. Those of mixed blood do not differ in enterprise from the pure-blooded descendants of the early settlers.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

Imports and Exports.

The foreign trade of the Colony during the year 1931 amounted to Rs.2,172,671, being a decrease of Rs.1,507,373 as compared with the previous year.

The total imports amounted to Rs.1,069,858, a decrease of Rs.561,119 as compared with the previous year.

The total exports amounted to Rs.1,102,713, a decrease of Rs.946,254 compared with the year 1930.

The following statement shows the value of imports into and exports from the Colony during the year 1931 :—

						Rs.
Trade imports	...	...	...	...	...	1,038,526
Government imports	...	...	...	...	...	31,432
						<hr/> 1,069,958
Domestic exports and re-exports	...	...	...	...	...	1,107,733
Excess of exports and re-exports over imports	...	...	...	...	Rs.	<hr/> 37,775

The following table shows the balance of trade as represented by the excess in the value of exports over that of imports during the quinquennial period 1927-1931 :—

<i>Year.</i>			<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Excess of Exports over Imports.</i>
			<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
1927	...	...	2,155,461	1,829,710	325,751
1928	...	...	2,434,330	1,744,719	689,611
1929	...	...	2,143,743	1,813,283	330,460
1930	...	...	2,048,967	1,631,077	417,890
1931	...	...	1,102,713	1,069,958	32,755

The distribution of trade among the countries principally interested is indicated in the following table :—

<i>Countries.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports.</i>
		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
United Kingdom	...	519,210	326,107
India	...	93,214	373,247
France	...	48,097	85,080
United States of America		255,803	1,218

The value of copra exported to the principal countries in 1930 and 1931 was as follows :—

		1930	1931
		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
United Kingdom	...	200,200	451,251
India	...	78,630	93,214
South Africa	...	536,770	—
Germany	...	40,900	23,250
Norway	...	264,550	82,725
France	...	85,080	3,375
Mauritius	...	3,320	12,039
		<u>Rs. 1,209,450</u>	<u>Rs. 665,854</u>

The value of essential oils exported to the principal countries for the same periods was :

		1930.	1931.
		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
United Kingdom	...	18,203	18,585
United States of America		328,522	255,363
France	...	5,611	11,064
Germany	...	—	8,288
French Possessions	...	1,005	—
		<u>Rs. 353,341</u>	<u>Rs. 293,300</u>

The value of guano exported for the same periods was :—

	1930.	1931.
	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom	—	18,000
Ceylon	40,000	13,200
Kenya	5,665	4,900
Mauritius	30,498	9,250
New Zealand	165,000	18,000
French Possessions	14,900	—
Belgium	120,000	—
Total ...	Rs.376,063	Rs.63,350

The value of piece-goods imported from the principal countries was as follows :—

	<i>United Kingdom.</i>	<i>India.</i>	<i>Japan.</i>	<i>France.</i>	<i>Hong Kong.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1930 ...	24,932	70,978	64,049	1,612	—	161,571
1931 ...	16,293	42,600	33,921	63	3,837	96,714

The supply of cotton piece-goods in yards for the last five years is as follows :—

	<i>United Kingdom.</i>	<i>India.</i>	<i>Japan.</i>	<i>France.</i>
	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.
1927 ...	64,772	620,418	159,220	3,719
1928 ...	38,810	521,935	137,350	1,949
1929 ...	89,066	456,254	202,233	3,100
1930 ...	57,587	297,718	396,485	1,389
1931 ...	55,997	173,727	209,807	160

General Course of Prices.

Both the prices of imported and exported articles have fallen.

Copra which was Rs.145 the ton in January fell to Rs.100 in June, to rise to Rs.180 in December. Essential oil (cinnamon) fell from Rs.5.75 a litre to Rs.3. Caret (tortoise-shell) was sold

throughout the year at Rs.16 a kilo, Essential oil distillation has made great strides of recent years, but is now seriously affected by other competing products, as is the case also with copra, the principal industry. Approximately one-third of the imports into the Colony came from the United Kingdom (Rs.326,107). India supplied 2,438½ tons of rice (Rs.233,881). The general fall in prices is a reflection of the world-wide trade depression.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

All the unskilled work on estates is performed by native labourers. The supply of labour is adequate. Natives and their families who reside on estates are given a small allotment of land for themselves and are usually allowed to keep such small stock as pigs, goats, etc.

Labour contracts are generally verbal, but the labourer goes on working from month to month for as long as he and his employer are mutually satisfied. The rates of wages are fair, taking into consideration the cost of living, the average being Rs.8 per month—equal to 100 lb. of rice, the staple foodstuff. Women and children (about 2,000) are employed for picking cinnamon leaves for distillation; they earn Rs.4 per month for a ton of leaves delivered at the distillery, representing some five hours' work per day. As this is task work, extra hours mean extra pay. On the whole the labour situation normally is not unsatisfactory and the relations between employers and employed are excellent. For the male labourers also the majority of estates provide task work of half a day, or more for those desirous of earning more. The employment of labour on the outlying islands is governed by law. Written contracts are entered into for periods of six months at a time. The minimum scale of wages per month is :—men, Rs.4; women, and males under 15, Rs.2. In addition they are entitled to rations on a scale laid down by regulation. The life on these islands is liked by the labourers. They manage to save money which, in the case of most of them, on their return to Mahe, very soon disappears amongst relations, friends, and the sharks of a seaport town.

Cost of Living of Officials.

(Family of 2 adults and 2 children.)

The rent of houses is Rs.40 to Rs.60 per month, depending on the size, locality, and grounds. The cost of servants is as follows :—cooks Rs.20 to Rs.30, house boys Rs.15 to Rs.20, maid servants Rs.6 to Rs.8, washerwomen Rs.12 to Rs.15, gardeners Rs.16 to Rs.20. The average cost of living (per month) is as follows :—

	Rs.
Rent	45
Food	150
Cook	20
Boy	15
Washerwoman	12
Servant	6
Gardener	16
Fuel	8
Lighting	20
School books and fees	20
Medical and dental attendance	15
Tobacco	10
Social life	25
Charities... ..	5
Taxes	20
Church (seats)	5
Insurance	50
Bedding and household utensils, etc.	10
Clothing, boots, etc.	10
	<hr/>
	Rs.462

No assistance towards the cost of passages for leave is granted by the Government.

Average Rate of Wages for Labour.

	<i>Per annum.</i>	<i>Per day of 8 hours.</i>	<i>Per task or job of 5 to 6 hours.</i>
<i>Agricultural :—</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Overseers ...	500—720	—	—
Gardeners ...	144—192	—	1·00 per day.
Labourers ...	96—120	1·00	1·50 per night.
<i>Domestic Service :—</i>			
Predial	120—180	—	—
Domestic	120—300	—	—
<i>Trade and Manufacture :—</i>			
Carpenters ...	240—480	1—1·50	—
Masons	240—480	1—1·50	—
Blacksmiths ...	300—720	—	—

Women labourers are paid approximately half the pay of men.

Labourers in Government employ receive from Rs.8 to Rs.10 per month.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is entirely in the hands of the Church of England and Roman Catholic Missions and is not compulsory. There are 25 primary schools at which free elementary education is given. Of these 19 are Roman Catholic schools with 2,182 pupils (965 boys and 1,217 girls); the average attendance in 1931 was 1,672·5 or 76·6 per cent.; the remaining 7 schools are Church of England schools with 409 pupils (219 boys and 190 girls); the average attendance was 320·5 or 78·3 per cent. The churches receive an annual Government grant of Rs.22,214. The schools are required to conform to a programme of studies approved by the Governing Body of Education. Periodical inspections are made by a Government Inspector. A Marist Brothers College, known as the St. Louis College, gives both primary and secondary education up to the standard required for the University of London Matriculation Examination. The number of pupils in 1931 was 201. St. Joseph's Convent School affords education to 100 girls up to the School Certificate Examination of Cambridge University. At both institutions, moderate fees are charged which do not, however, cover expenses.

A scholarship of the annual value, free of income-tax, either of Rs.1,200 (approximately £90) tenable for 5 years or of Rs.1,500 (approximately £110) tenable for 4 years, together with a free passage to England and back on completion of studies, is awarded every second year to a scholar, under the age of 19, to enable him to pursue his studies in any part of the British Empire outside Seychelles. The scholarship is awarded on the results of the London Matriculation Examination to the candidate who has passed in the first division and is recommended for the scholarship by the examiners.

There is no public system of accident, sickness or old age insurance. Pauper relief is afforded by the Government in the form of small monthly allowances such as the necessities of each case require and by the reception in an Institute, known as the Fiennes Institute, of those unable to care for themselves. The total cost to the Government for poor relief during the year under review was Rs.19,600.

A benevolent society, known as "La Ligue de Secours," supported by private donations, also gives some assistance.

The St. Louis College has a good brass band.

Music is taught at St. Joseph's Convent School.

Association football is played all the year round, and cricket is played every Saturday afternoon by two local teams.

Tennis is also a popular game.

An occasional cinema exhibition is given but, owing to various causes, new films are difficult to get.

A Philharmonic Society and an amateur Dramatic Society exist. Dances and concerts are given by these.

The visit of a warship generally twice a year from the East Indies Station is an event always looked forward to.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Until recently, the transport of produce was by sea, as it still is to some extent. This was a considerable handicap to planters affected, who might, at certain seasons of the year, have to wait two or three months for a safe passage. Motor roads have been and are continuing to be constructed, much to the satisfaction of outside planters. It is hoped, within the next two years, to complete the roads of the main island and of Praslin and La Digue. The smaller islands are owned or leased by individual planters who make their own arrangements in this regard. A grant is being given from the Colonial Development Fund of £7,500 for the construction of roads, on the £1 for £1 principle.

There are no railways and no telephones. Small sailing coasters provide transport for the adjacent islands and larger sailing ships, of which there are 8, ply to the outlying islands. A large Government motor-launch, the *Alouette*, serves as a bi-weekly ferry for passengers from Mahe to Praslin and La Digue.

A wireless station is attached to the Postal Department. Its range is approximately 400 miles and it has been found useful for communication with visiting ships. An ancillary station is being established on the island of Praslin.

Mail and Postal Service.

The revenue of the Postal Department amounted to Rs.20,637·33 and the expenditure to Rs.22,831·00. The mail service during the year was good and mails were despatched on 37 occasions. The British India Company's steamers call on their voyage from Bombay to Mombasa once every four weeks and on their return journey once every eight weeks. Mails are also despatched by various cargo steamers which call at irregular intervals. Parcels from Europe are received via Bombay, but parcels from Seychelles are despatched via Bombay or Mombasa.

Cable Services.

The Eastern and South African Telegraph Company maintains a station at Victoria and gives a very satisfactory service. Seychelles is an important cable junction, there being cables to Zanzibar, Mauritius, Aden and Colombo.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**Banking.**

There are no banks in the Colony with the exception of a Government Savings Bank. The amount on deposit at the Treasury Savings Bank at the end of the year was Rs.203,752, an increase of Rs.4,219 on the previous year. In order to facilitate trade, the Treasury purchases and sells Drafts and undertakes the collection of documentary Bills, etc., for London and foreign banks. The proceeds are remitted through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

Currency.

The monetary unit in Seychelles is the Indian silver rupee of 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are in circulation :—silver 50-cent pieces and 25-cent pieces. Mauritius currency notes of Rs.50, Rs.10, and Rs.5, and silver coins of 20 and 10 cents, and bronze coins of 5, 2, and 1 cent are also in circulation. Mauritius notes are being withdrawn from circulation and replaced by currency notes issued by the Government of Seychelles which are of the following values :—Rs.50, Rs.10, Rs.5, Re.1, and one-half rupee. The Seychelles currency notes in circulation on 31st December, 1931, amounted to Rs.232,567 secured by investments and cash in hand in terms of law.

Weights and Measures.

The metric system is in general use but there are some old French measures which are also used, such as :—

(1) *L'aune*, a measure for retailing cloth, etc., of 46·9 inches = 1·20 metres.

(2) *L'arpent* = 5,048 square yards or 0·42 hectare, for measuring land.

(3) *La gaulette*, employed on estates as a measure of task work in the fields = 10 French feet.

(4) *Le tierçon*, a small barrel, a measure of capacity generally imported from Mauritius, containing rum, about 190 litres.

(5) *Le velt*, a measure of capacity for coco-nut oil = 7·57 litres.

(6) *The cord*, used for stacking firewood, 4 ft. × 4 ft. × 8 ft. = 128 French cubic feet.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The public works are under the control of a Superintendent of Public Works and Surveys, assisted by a small staff. This officer is also Chairman of the Victoria Town Board. The night-soil service of the town and the scavenging work are done by contract. The construction of motor roads was the principal work undertaken

during the year. Most of the work has been done by contract at a very reasonable rate and to the satisfaction of the Government and the Road Advisory Board, which consists of three private residents nominated by the Governor.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

System of Law.—The law in civil matters is contained in the French Civil Code, Code of Commerce, and Code of Civil Procedure as they existed in 1810 and as amended by local Ordinances.

The Penal Code is mainly based on the French Penal Code but with considerable importations from English law and the Indian Penal Code.

Courts.—The Supreme Court of Seychelles has full jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters save capital offences.

The Court of Assize has jurisdiction to try capital offences.

Both Courts are presided over by the Chief Justice. In the Court of Assize he is assisted by eight Assessors.

The Police Magistrate holds his Court in Victoria. He exercises a limited jurisdiction over minor offences. The maximum punishment he can inflict is a fine of Rs.250 and imprisonment for two months.

A Justice of the Peace is appointed for the district of South Mahe and another for the islands of Praslin and La Digue. They exercise a limited jurisdiction and the maximum punishment is a fine of Rs.100 and one month's imprisonment.

When occasion offers, the outlying islands are visited by an official appointed as Magistrate with the general powers of a Justice of the Peace.

An appeal lies from the inferior courts to the Supreme Court.

Police.

The establishment of the Police Force consisted in 1931 of :—
1 Inspector, 1 Sub-Inspector, 3 Sergeants, 10 Corporals, 78 Constables.
There are 11 Police Stations in Mahe, 3 in Praslin, and 1 at La Digue.

Criminal Statistics for 1931.—

		<i>Total Numbers.</i>			
	<i>Proceeded against.</i>	<i>Convicted.</i>	<i>Fined.</i>	<i>Imprisoned.</i>	
Supreme Court	... 146	92	40	35	
Summary Courts	... 1,352	1,154	1,116	17	

Thirteen male juveniles under the age of 16 were sentenced to corporal punishment and 10 persons were bound over. No corporal punishment can be inflicted on persons over 16 years of age.

Punishments.—Fines can be paid by instalments and time given for paying them. Time to pay is always given to first offenders.

It is not possible to maintain a reformatory for juvenile offenders. They are only sent to prison in exceptional cases. There is no developed probation system, but suitable cases are bound over for three years to be of good behaviour and to come up for judgment if called on.

Prisons.

The prison is situated in the town of Victoria. Its accommodation is ample. The sexes are separated.

Male prisoners are employed on making coco-nut fibre, stone-breaking, and on extra-mural work in maintaining Government properties, etc.

Female prisoners are employed on laundry and sewing work.

The health of the prisoners is excellent.

In 1931, the daily average number in prison amounted to 31·4 men and 3·1 women.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Social Legislation.—The population is almost entirely agricultural and there is no factory or workmen's compensation legislation. Employers must provide medical and hospital treatment for workmen living on their property.

The Poor Relief Ordinance (No. 29 of 1919) provides for the provision of out-relief and also for the management of the Fiennes Institute, the Public Assistance Institute for the aged and infirm.

Ordinances passed in 1931.—

1. Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1931.

2. Ordinance to amend the Law upon Incomes.

Alteration of termination of year for assessment of income for tax purposes.

3. To further extend the jurisdiction of the Justices of the Peace.

Empowers Justices of the Peace to try:—

Unlawful Possession	{	When value of articles which are the subject of the prosecutions does not amount to more than Rs.10.
Simple Larceny		

Assaulting Public Functionary and Resisting Arrest.

4. To Control Communications with Leper Asylums.

5. To provide means for the prevention of malaria within the Colony.

6. To amend the Seychelles Scholarship Ordinance, 1927.

7. To enable the Governor to appoint Commissioners to enquire into and report on matters referred to them by the Governor in Executive Council.

8. To amend the Motor Ordinance, 1929 :—
Prescribing the registration of Motor Vehicles in accordance with Regulations.
9. To amend the Barristers and Attorneys Ordinance, 1923 :—
Enabling a Law Agent admitted to practice in Scotland to practise in the Colony.
10. To amend the Control of Communications with Leper Asylums Ordinance, 1931 :—
Substitution for the words "any island or the sea surrounding it or any place" in Ordinance No. 4 of 1931 of a more precise definition.
11. To amend the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1902 :—
Providing withdrawals from the Bank by cheques to third-parties, etc.
12. To regulate and impose a tax on land planted in sugar-cane :—
Limiting the area of sugar-cane plantations to 800 square feet, necessary corollary of Ordinance No. 13 of 1931. (In abeyance).
13. To prohibit the manufacture and sale of the drink called "Bacca". (In abeyance).
14. Appropriation Ordinance, 1932.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year amounted to Rs.692,412, being a deficit on the estimate of Rs.5,114. The expenditure amounted to Rs.753,911, showing an excess of Rs.96,176 on the estimate. In addition, a sum of Rs.60,440 was expended on capital services from surplus funds.

The following statement shows the revenue for each of the last five years :—

	Rs.		
1927	736,885		
1928	751,633		
1929	762,061		
1930	754,173		
1931	692,412		

The following statement shows the expenditure for each of the last five years :—

			Ordinary.	From Surplus
			Rs.	Funds.
			Rs.	Rs.
1927	...	...	663,266	—
1928	...	...	731,672	—
1929	...	...	715,640	51,549
1930	...	...	709,345	128,722
1931	...	...	753,911	60,440

Customs brought in the greater part of the revenue, i.e. Rs.227,909.

The following table shows the proportion of receipts over a period of five years :—

			Customs.	Taxes.	Other	Total.
			Rs.	Rs.	Sources.	Rs.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1927	...	...	339,324	197,764	199,797	736,885
1928	...	...	325,704	188,757	237,169	751,633
1929	...	...	387,228	203,842	170,991	762,061
1930	...	...	356,792	196,749	200,632	754,173
1931	...	...	227,909	174,069	290,434	692,412

Public Debt.

The Colony has no Public Debt.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 1st January, 1931, was Rs.494,607. On 31st December, 1931, the amount had decreased to Rs.372,669 owing to expenditure on capital services, such as roads, and to the deficit in the budget for the year.

Taxation.

No change was made in the method of raising revenue, or alteration in the rate of taxation during the year. The following are the main heads of taxation :—

Customs Tariff.—The *ad valorem* duty is 15 per cent.

A specific duty on food-stuffs, spirits, kerosene, paraffin, crude oil, petrol, benzine, and other motor spirits. A Poor Tax of 1 cent. of a rupee per degree of alcohol is levied on spirits. The above tariff, excepting wines, paraffin, kerosene, petrol and other motor spirits, is subject to a surtax of 10 per cent.

Export Duty.—A duty of Re.1·00 per ton of guano, mangrove bark and prepared fertilizers ; Re.1·00 per hectolitre of whale oil ; Rs.2·00 per ton of cinnamon bark.

Details of *Stamp Duties, Court Fees, etc.*, are set out in detail in the Blue Book for the year.

A *Rural House Tax* of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. is imposed with certain exceptions on the value of every rural house, exclusive of the value of the land on which such house is erected, provided that the minimum tax on any rural house shall be fifty cents of a rupee whenever the value of such house is less than one hundred rupees. There is also a *Town Property Tax* of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the value of all immovable property situated within the limits of the town of Victoria.

Income-Tax.—This is payable at the following rates :—

When income is less than Rs.1,000 the rate shall be 1 per cent. on the amount subject to a minimum tax of Rs.2.

When income amounts to Rs.1,000 or more :—

2 per cent. on the 1st Rs.1,000 or part thereof.

2½ " " 2nd Rs.1,000 " "

3 " " 3rd Rs.1,000 " "

3½ " " 4th Rs.1,000 " "

4 " " 5th Rs.1,000 " "

4½ " " 6th Rs.1,000 " "

5 " " excess over Rs.6,000 up to Rs.15,000.

5½ " " " " Rs.15,000 " Rs.20,000.

6 " " " " Rs.20,000.

CHAPTER XVI.

GENERAL.

The trade depression continues though there has been a small rise in the price of copra, the main product of the Colony. In the case of most planters, their estates are mortgaged and, owing to the fall in the prices of their products, they are experiencing difficulties in meeting their obligations. Labourers' wages have been reduced but, on the whole, for those willing to work employment has been available and planters generally have allowed and encouraged them to grow crops themselves, such as sweet potatoes, manioc, etc., which, together with rice (imported) and fish, which are very abundant, form their staple diet. The trade figures given above indicate to what extent the trade of the Colony has suffered. A beneficial effect of the depression has been to impress on the planters the necessity of better and more intensive cultivation, to which many are now applying themselves in so far as their circumstances permit. Early in the year the Secretary of State for the Colonies sent Mr. F. A. Stockdale, C.M.G., C.B.E., Agricultural Adviser to the Colonial Office, to advise planters in the Colony. His visit had a heartening effect and certain recommendations made by him for further expert advice and assistance have been approved by the Secretary of State and are being carried out.

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*A Voyage Round the World in H.M.S. "Sulphur"—London, 1843.

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By Charles Pridham, B.A., F.R.C.S.

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The Annual Blue Book and the Annual Reports of the several Government Departments may be obtained from the Governor's Office, or from the Crown Agents in London, at various prices. The Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the Colony of Seychelles is also obtainable at the Governor's Office or, in London, from His Majesty's Stationery Office (price varies from year to year).

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

British Honduras lies on the Atlantic side of the mainland of Central America within 18° 29' 5" to 15° 53' 55" North latitude and 89° 9' 22" to 88° 10' West longitude.

The boundaries of the Colony are defined by the River Hondo and Yucatan on the north ; by a straight line drawn from Gracias a Dios Falls on the River Sarstoon to Garbutt's Falls on the Belize River, thence north to the Mexican frontier on the west ; by a portion of Guatemala with the River Sarstoon on the south ; while the Bay of Honduras and the Caribbean Sea are to the east. Its greatest length is about 174 miles and width about 68 miles. The total area is 8,598 square miles. The Colony is therefore about one-sixth the size of England, nearly twice the size of Jamaica, and about two-thirds the size of the whole of the British West Indian Islands put together.

The mainland of the Colony is low and swampy near the coast, but rises inland. The northern half of the Colony is generally flat, but in the south it is hilly and mountainous, rising in the Cockscomb

Range to a height of 3,700 feet. The country is well watered, and its rivers, which are many, provide the chief means of communication. The soil is rich and well adapted to the growth of tropical produce.

Climate.

The climate of British Honduras compares favourably with that of other tropical countries with small European populations. Europeans leading a normal life and taking common precautions will find the climate of British Honduras pleasant and healthy. The annual rainfall at Belize was 120·23 inches. The absolute extremes of temperature were on 22nd January and 12th May, when the thermometer registered 51° F. and 89° F., respectively.

History.

It is probable that Columbus discovered the coast about 1502, when on his way from Cuba to find a passage to the Indies, but so far as modern history goes, the Colony became known to Englishmen about 1638, probably accidentally through a shipwrecked crew. It is also probable that many years ago people from Jamaica visited the Colony and, finding logwood abundant and easily accessible, established themselves. Within a very short time of their arrival they must have come in contact with the Spaniards and Indians of Yucatan and the Peten District of Guatemala. There are records of many conflicts between them, but as England was at that time at war with Spain it was natural that the subjects of each King should fight whenever they met in this country. Indeed, long after the Thirty Years' War had ended in Europe, and Spain was our ally against France, conflicts occurred between the subjects of His Britannic Majesty and those of the King of Spain in this Colony. The Spaniards also made frequent attempts to expel Englishmen who came with their slaves from Jamaica. In 1670 Spain ceded in perpetuity to Great Britain by the Godolphin Treaty of 8th July, with plenary right of sovereignty, all lands in the West Indies or in any part of America held by the English at the time (Article vii). Logwood establishments increased rapidly from this date. The population of the Settlement at this date amounted to 700 white settlers, among whom was the famous Admiral John Benbow. By 1671 the Settlement had grown so prosperous that it was reported to King Charles II by the Governor of Jamaica as having "increased His Majesty's Customs and the natural commerce more than any of His Majesty's Colonies." This was no doubt due to the great value of logwood and mahogany.

By 1713 there was a settled form of government carried on by magistrates elected by the inhabitants. In 1717 the Board of Trade asserted the absolute right of Great Britain to cut logwood. In the next year the Spaniards made a determined effort to conquer the Settlement and got as far as "Spanish Lookout" on the Belize

River, which they fortified. In 1754 another attempt was made and defeated "principally by slaves" at Labouring Creek. In 1779 St. George's Caye was attacked and a great many settlers were captured, ill-treated, and carried off to Merida and thence to Havana, but were subsequently allowed to return. In 1786, by the Treaty of London, Great Britain agreed with Spain to give up the Mosquito Coast in exchange for the Settlement from the Belize River to the Sibun, including the lands lying between the two rivers, and St. George's Caye, but this was not agreeable to the Spaniards, and they continued their attacks from Mexico until finally beaten on 10th September, 1798, at St. George's Caye, thus ending the century and a half of Spanish efforts at domination.

From that time until about 1849 there was peace, but in that year the Indians in Yucatan rebelled against their Spanish oppressors, and many were driven across the Hondo and settled in the northern half of this Colony, and from the year 1867, when Mexico declared itself a republic and threw off the yoke of Spain, until the year 1872, the Indians of Yucatan continued to make repeated attacks on the Colony.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The first settlers, from 1638 to 1786, managed their own affairs. Persons were annually elected to act as magistrates, at public meetings held for the purpose. These magistrates discharged all executive and judicial functions. Resolutions were passed at public meetings and they formed the laws binding on the community. The King, in 1765, gave a "constitution to the people," founded on their ancient customs, viz., "legislating by public meetings, and the election of magistrates annually by the free suffrage of the people." This, it may be remarked, was the freest constitution ever enjoyed by, or granted to, a British settlement.

Admiral Sir William Burnaby was then sent to the Settlement to make the necessary arrangements, and the inhabitants were put in full possession of their lands and rights. Captain Cook, the celebrated navigator, accompanied Sir William Burnaby, who codified the laws and customs of the Settlement, which were afterwards published and known as "Burnaby's Laws."

In 1786 a Superintendent was appointed by the Home Government, but during the years 1791–97 elected magistrates again ruled the Settlement. From this latter date Superintendents were regularly appointed until 1862. An Executive Council was established in 1840 to assist the Superintendent, and in 1853 a Legislative Assembly was formally constituted, consisting of eighteen elected and three nominated members. The Settlement was declared a Colony on 12th May, 1862, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed subordinate to the Governor of Jamaica. In 1870 the Legislative

Assembly was abolished by a local enactment and a Legislative Council substituted therefor, consisting of five official and not less than four unofficial members, with the Lieutenant-Governor as President. Since 1913 the Council has contained six official and seven unofficial members. On 31st October, 1884, Letters Patent were proclaimed constituting the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief, which rendered the Colony independent of Jamaica. These were renewed by Letters Patent proclaimed on 10th September, 1909.

The English Common Law and all statutes of the Imperial Parliament "in abrogation or derogation, or in any way declaratory of the Common Law" passed before 1899 extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable and subject to modification by Colonial Ordinances. Pursuant to Ordinance No. 31 of 1923 a new and revised edition of the Laws of this Colony has been published in two volumes. This edition, referred to as "The Consolidated Laws, 1924," came into force on 4th February, 1925, and supersedes the revised edition published in 1915 and all Ordinances passed before July, 1924. Appeals to His Majesty in Council are regulated by Chapter 155 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor and three *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may from time to time be appointed with His Majesty's approval. At the date of this Report there were four unofficial members.

For administrative purposes the Colony is divided into six Districts: Belize, which includes the capital at the mouth of the river of the same name; the Corozal District; the Orange Walk District; the Cayo District; the Stann Creek District; and the Toledo District, the main station of which is Punta Gorda, in the south of the Colony. A Commissioner is appointed to each District, who exercises the usual judicial functions of that office as prescribed by law. He is also *ex officio* Sub-Treasurer of his District, Sub-Collector of Customs, District Postmaster, and Chairman of the local nominated District Boards.

Under Chapter 125 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924, there is a District Board, nominated by the Governor, in each District. These Boards have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health; markets; slaughter-houses; traffic regulation; naming, numbering, and lighting of places and streets in any town within their Districts; building construction, etc. Their revenues are mainly derived from property taxes, liquor and other licences, rents and fees.

There is a partly nominated and partly elective Town Board in the town of Belize, established under Chapter 118 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924. The Board exercises all the functions of a District Board, and its jurisdiction extends to and includes St. George's Caye, Caye Caulker, and Ambergris Caye.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the Colony at the end of 1931 was estimated at 52,139, and consisted of 25,762 males and 26,377 females. Owing to intermixing, racial classification of the population is difficult and unreliable, but the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts are inhabited principally by the descendants of the early Spanish and Maya peoples. The Stann Creek District is peopled, in the main, by the Caribs, while in the Toledo District the Caribs and Mayas predominate. In the Cayo District are Guatemalans, Mexicans, and a few Syrians. In the capital the "Creoles" (descendants of the early settlers) are in the majority, but there are also a large number of people of Latin extraction from the neighbouring Republics, and Syrians and Chinese. There is a limited number of Europeans and United States citizens.

The population was distributed in the Districts of the Colony as follows :—

<i>District.</i>		<i>Persons.</i>	<i>Area in square miles.</i>	<i>Persons per square mile.</i>
Belize ...	...	19,672	1,623	12.12
Corozal ...	...	7,772	718	10.82
Orange Walk ...	...	6,338	1,462	4.33
Stann Creek ...	...	5,800	840	6.90
Toledo ...	...	5,895	2,125	2.77
Cayo ...	...	6,662	1,830	3.64
Colony ...	...	52,139	8,598	6.06

The following table gives the number of births, deaths, marriages, and infantile mortality for 1931, with comparative figures for the previous year :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Births.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>		<i>Marriages.</i>		<i>Infantile Mortality.</i>	
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
1930 ...	1,918	3.66	1,001	1.91	399	0.76	209	10.95
1931 ...	1,909	3.67	1,915	3.67	342	0.65	291	15.17

No record is kept of emigration and immigration.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Colony remained free from any quarantinable disease during the year. Following the hurricane of 10th September, 1931, there was an increase in the number of cases of malaria fever and dysentery due to hurricane conditions causing a temporary increase in the number of malarial mosquitoes and house flies.

The most prevalent diseases were as follows :—

(a) *Malaria*—accounting for 50 per cent. of the total number of cases of infectious disease. This disease is usually of the aestivo-autumnal type and 531 cases were treated during the year in the six hospitals in the Colony.

This disease is responsible for 6·4 per cent. of the total deaths in the Colony.

(b) *Dysentery*—accounting for 5 per cent. of the total number of cases of infectious disease. Both the amoebic and bacillary types of the disease occur. Ninety-three cases of this disease were treated in the six hospitals of the Colony, with nine deaths.

(c) *Tuberculosis*—accounting for 2·1 per cent. of the total number of infectious disease. The pulmonary form of the disease is most common. Fifteen new cases were notified during the year, and 51 cases were treated in the six hospitals of the Colony.

(d) *Venereal diseases* are common—11·5 per cent. of the total number of cases of infectious disease.

No statistics are available as to the occupational incidence of these diseases. There are no mines or factories in the Colony.

The population of the Colony is estimated to be 52,139. The death-rate of the Colony is 36·72 per thousand and the birth-rate 36·78. The infantile mortality rate (the number of children dying within one year of birth) is 138·9 per thousand.

There are six hospitals in the Colony—one for each District of the Colony. The hospital in the capital town, Belize, contains 70 beds. The number of beds in the other hospitals range from 20 to 6 beds. In these hospitals, treatment is afforded for medical, surgical, and obstetrical cases. In Belize, there is also a venereal disease ward of 8 beds. The poor and indigent receive free treatment in all the hospitals. For other classes the fees range from 25 cents to \$3·00 per day for each person. Cases of tuberculosis are ordinarily not received for treatment in the hospitals. Accommodation for five destitute sufferers from this disease is provided at the Belize Poor House.

Each District and each hospital of the Colony is in charge of an Assistant Medical Officer under a Principal Medical Officer who is *ex officio* Medical Officer of Health for the entire Colony. In the Belize hospital, there are two English trained nurses controlling a subordinate native nursing staff. At each District hospital, there is a competent native nurse who has received a course of training at the Belize hospital, extending over a period of three years.

Owing to the absence of any fall to the sea, and the lack of funds to carry out effectual mechanical drainage, few drains in the town of Belize act effectually. The low-lying and swampy land in the northern portion of the town is now being reclaimed by filling it in and raising its level with sand and mud dredged from the adjoining sea. The Local Authority, Belize, also operates a dredger by which means mud taken from the harbour and canals is deposited at convenient places in the town and given to householders for the purpose of raising their low-lying and swampy lots. The canal at the north side of the town is pumped out, as occasion arises, by

means of an electric pump controlled by the Local Authority, Belize. In the country districts, where there is a greater fall to the sea, efficient drains are provided and maintained by the Local Authorities.

There are six Local Authorities charged with the duty of looking after the sanitation of their respective Districts. There is also a Central Board of Health, having general power of supervision over the several Local Authorities. In Belize, there are five native subordinate sanitary inspectors working under a trained Chief Sanitary Inspector, and in each of the remaining five Districts of the Colony, there is also a native subordinate sanitary inspector, working under the Assistant Medical Officer of the District.

The absence of any pipe-borne water-supply necessitates the storage of rain-water in vats, tanks, and other receptacles. Regular and thorough inspections of these water receptacles by the sanitary inspectors must be maintained in order to detect and destroy the larvae of the mosquito and in particular the yellow fever-carrying mosquito. Owing to the large number of vats destroyed by the hurricane, householders have had to fall back on barrels and other improvised receptacles in which to store their water which has resulted in an increase in the number of mosquitoes and the necessity for increased watchfulness on the part of the sanitary inspectors. Some of the vats are kept screened by their owners but the majority are kept stocked by the sanitary inspectors with larvivorous fish. Crab holes are being treated with cyanogas by the sanitary staff with satisfactory results. All pools of stagnant water within the several towns are periodically oiled by the sanitary staff, a mixture of sawdust and crude oil being used for the purpose. A very limited amount of quinine as a prophylactic against malaria is being distributed by the Medical Officers free of cost to the public. In Belize, scavenging is now being performed by motor trucks and conditions are much improved. Buckets from latrines are regularly emptied into the sea or canals, and individual septic tanks in increasing numbers are being installed in private houses. In the out-lying towns, conditions are fairly satisfactory, but in the remote country villages methods of disposal of excreta are extremely faulty.

V.—HOUSING.

The population live in wooden houses with galvanized iron roofs, standing usually on wooden piles about 7 feet above the level of the ground which is often low-lying, swampy, and flooded. It is unusual to find the ground floor used as a sleeping room. It is generally used as a store-room, washing room, kitchen, or garage.

Owing to the destruction caused by the hurricane of 1931 and the extensive fire which occurred early in 1932, there are now barely sufficient houses in the town of Belize for the accommodation of the

present number of inhabitants. Hurricane-damaged houses are, however, being gradually replaced. In other towns of the Colony there is ample housing accommodation.

The houses are most of them very small, judged by European standards, but they are usually neatly painted and tidily kept. At the close of every year, there is usually an influx of labourers into the capital from the various mahogany and chicle camps and there is always, during this period, considerable overcrowding. A few years ago, a large swampy area to the south of the town of Belize was given by the Government to be used as a native residential area. Unfortunately this area was almost completely denuded of its houses by the recent hurricane and the soil so laboriously and expensively deposited by the inhabitants in order to fill up their swampy and low-lying lots washed away. Building has been, however, commenced again in this area. Three ranges of "barracks," two at the north end of the town and another at the south end, have been temporarily erected by the Government to provide accommodation for the homeless. They consist of 72 small rooms each about 10 feet by 8 feet. Another such "barrack" has been since erected by the Town Board of Belize. These rooms are rented to people of the labouring class at the rate of 50 cents per week.

There were no building regulations prior to the year 1928. In consequence, householders erected houses how, where, and in whatever manner best suited their convenience. Often, therefore, collections of small tenement houses are found packed together without order in the back yards of houses of a better class and decent appearance facing the street. Building regulations have now been passed designed to prevent this and to provide that there should be sufficient ventilation in and free space around each house. These regulations, however, apply only to new erections. In order to deal with existing slum areas and to rectify the errors of past years, legislation involving compensation to owners will be necessary. This latter cannot be undertaken in view of the present financial condition of the Colony and of the municipal authorities.

Regulations are also now being framed with a view to ensuring that, in future, houses will be erected in such a manner as to afford greater protection against hurricanes.

There are several residents in the town of Belize who own extensive house property which is rented out to tenants, but there are also very many working people who own or partly own the houses in which they live.

There is one active Building Society in Belize, and a portion of the Imperial loan recently obtained, is now being distributed by a Loan Board among householders in the form of loans in cases where houses have been damaged or destroyed by the hurricane.

All premises in the towns are regularly inspected by the sanitary inspectors and householders are made to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. Prosecution of offenders is not undertaken save as a last resort.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal products of the Colony are :—

Agricultural.—Bananas, plantains, citrus fruits, coco-nuts, copra, chicle and corn (maize), sugar and rum, vegetables, root crops, pulse, and grain ;

Live Stock.—Swine, cattle, and poultry ;

Timber.—Mahogany, cedar, logwood, rosewood, pine, yemeria, santa maria, and other secondary woods ;

Marine.—Sponges, lobsters, turtle, and fish (there are numerous varieties).

The employment of contract labour in the agricultural industry of the Colony is confined entirely to the sugar estates in the northern districts and to a few stock farms. The length of the contract period varies from six months to fifteen months and wages paid average \$19 per month.

As a rule labourers, whether contract or non-contract, are housed on the estates either in wood and iron barracks or bush huts.

In regard to coco-nuts and copra the organization consists of both plantation and individual agriculturists. In the case of the former labour is usually employed as required and paid by the task. The foremen or captains of gangs are as a rule employed permanently and are paid by the month.

The plantation organization is in the majority of cases operated by Europeans, whereas individual growers are mostly non-Europeans. The number of the latter far exceeds that of the former although the actual production is about equally divided. Figures for the actual number of non-European cultivators are not available.

Approximately 80 per cent. of the nuts are exported as such and as copra, the remaining 20 per cent. being used for oil production for home consumption.

Coco-nuts and copra are to agriculture in the Colony what mahogany is to the forest industry and, like mahogany production, the export was greatly curtailed in 1931, the value being \$63,241 as against \$140,434 in 1930 and \$209,750 in 1927.

The grapefruit industry is organized on plantation lines, the majority being owned by Europeans. Labour is recruited as required except in a few cases where regular gangs, amounting to about fifteen men, are regularly employed. In the case of oranges,

limes, seedling grapefruit, etc., the bulk of the production is by individuals of non-European descent, who own a few scattered trees on their holdings. The fruits are grown entirely for local consumption.

Exports of citrus fruits also fell in value from \$14,953 in 1930 to \$8,378 in 1931, but with the recent increase of orchards a marked expansion of citrus exports will occur in the next few years.

The bulk of the banana and plantain crops is now produced by non-European planters each working as an individual unit. At harvesting time they sometimes work in association with one another; otherwise they work their plantations as individuals. Approximately 80 per cent. of the bananas are exported as well as a very small percentage of plantains. As a result of dull markets leading to more strict grading and increased rejections on the part of buyers, the export of bananas was slightly decreased from \$32,087 in 1930 to \$31,077 in 1931.

Rum is produced entirely on the small sugar estates in the north and on one estate in the south. The labour required is drawn from estate labour except in the case of the "still-man" who is usually a permanent employee paid monthly. In the northern districts the production is entirely by persons of Spanish descent, while that in the south is by a European. The value of rum exported showed a slight increase to \$14,412 from \$14,165 in 1930. The production of vegetables, etc., is almost entirely carried on by non-Europeans working as individuals, each farming a small acreage.

Sugar-cane is organized as a plantation crop on estate lines, owned by persons of European descent and Central American Spanish descent. Labour is usually contracted. A small quantity is grown by the non-European cultivator for family consumption, and the whole of the sugar production is consumed in the Colony.

Stock-raising is confined almost entirely to persons of European and Central American Spanish descent. Owing to the decrease in the use of animal draught in timber extraction less attention is given to this industry now than previously. The use of stock for agricultural draught purposes is hardly practised at all, and consequently the number of animals kept by the native agriculturist is practically nil.

During the last few years marked improvement has taken place in regard to non-European agriculture. The advent of a fairly large number of Jamaican cultivators has appreciably raised the standard. The influence of the European planter cannot as yet be said to have affected the native cultivator. This is mainly due to the very small number of Europeans at present operating. The native of British Honduras is not a born agriculturist and thus it will be a generation or more before any pronounced improvement in his methods can be hoped for.

The forest industry continued to contribute largely to exports of produce of domestic origin as is shown by the percentages, by value, of the various classes of produce exported.

					<i>Per cent.</i>
Forest produce	...	...	...	...	85.07
Agricultural produce	...	...	...	...	14.41
Marine produce	...	...	...	...	0.48
Unclassified produce	...	...	...	...	0.04

The volume of exports, however, was greatly reduced as compared with that of the previous year, the total value falling from \$1,403,595 in 1930 to \$602,459 in 1931. This fall in the export of mahogany was largely accounted for by the depression in the mahogany market in which activities were almost at a standstill. The value of mahogany shipped in 1931 was \$297,972 as against \$1,007,615 in 1930 and \$2,637,622 in 1928, the record year of the Colony's mahogany trade. Exports of chicle gum remained up to the average of recent years with a value of \$171,508.

Pine was not exported but the local mills continued in operation to supply local demand. The output was about 600,000 feet B.M. There is room for great expansion in the pine-milling industry. Much of the Colony's stumpage, however, is under long-term concessions which have not been worked to date. Exports of logwood were slightly higher than those of 1930 but this commodity, once the only source of the Colony's wealth, is now an almost insignificant item in the export trade.

The value of logwood exported during the year was \$5,803. Six tons only of rosewood were produced in 1931 against 72 in 1930. This commodity has always a limited market but the production for the year was very low. Alligator skins and live animals were also exported. The hunting of alligators is now becoming more organized through the activities of local buyers of hides.

As regards the forest industry, practically the whole of the annual cut of mahogany and cedar is shipped in log form; in the round to United States of America; squared to the United Kingdom markets. The United States markets have until recently absorbed 85 to 90 per cent. of the exports, but in 1931 this volume fell to about 75 per cent. United States' buyers obtain their supplies by contracting, a year ahead of requirements, with loggers in the Colony for a definite volume of timber. The logger maintains his own extraction organization in the form of caterpillar tractors and logging trucks—animal haulage is practically obsolete—so that his overhead costs are confined to the depreciation of equipment, the wages of his book-keeper, and his own salary or profits. He selects an area in which mahogany is sufficiently abundant to give him his contracted volume of timber. Trees are purchased from the landowner either on a stumpage or a measurement royalty basis.

Labour is hired at the beginning of the year on 6 to 12 months' contracts and is transported to and from the logging area by the contractor. Labourers' families usually accompany them to the bush.

Mahogany work is practically all given out on task rates.

A market for chicle is provided by the United States of America chewing gum manufacturers, who maintain buying agencies in the Colony. Buyers give out contracts for stipulated weights of gum to their contractors who often sub-contract. The contractor procures a concession to tap chicle on a rate-per-pound basis from the landowner, and hires his labour for the chicle season which lasts from July till February. Until recently large sums were advanced to the tapper who usually spent the advance, intended to support his family while he was absent in the bush, and remained in debt, with his family often in want, until the end of the season, when accounts were settled. A spendthrift, improvident morale was thus built up among the tappers leading to theft of other men's chicle and/or sale of their own produce to some other contractor to obtain ready cash, until the dishonesty of the chicleros has become almost proverbial. Several years of depression, however, in the chicle markets have largely rid the industry of the advance system, which will never be reinstated, to the ultimate benefit, it is to be hoped, of the individual chiclero and his family.

Logwood cutting is not now an organized industry. It is confined to the sporadic efforts of individuals who cut a few tons at a time for sale to the exporters. It is treated as a means of making some money during dull times rather than as a permanent employment. The very fluctuating demand fosters this attitude. Rosewood production is handled by the exporters who hire their own small gangs temporarily when they have an order to fulfil. Pine lumber is produced by a few small mills of the semi-portable type. It is largely sold in the undressed form so that it cannot compete with the imported article for certain classes of work such as interior trim.

The early introduction of a modern sawmill for the conversion of mahogany should be of great benefit to the industry as a whole. It will, too, probably lead to the production and marketing of timbers other than mahogany for which there is an ever-growing demand in the world's hardwood markets as the hardwoods of the temperate zones become exhausted. There are also fresh possibilities, now long overdue, of increased activity in pine production. The full utilization of these latent forest resources must make for enhanced prosperity and progress within the Colony.

VII.—COMMERCE.

As visualized in the last Annual Report the trade of the Colony was at a very low ebb throughout 1931. Contracts for the purchase of mahogany and chicle, which form the mainstay of the Colony,

practically ceased altogether, thereby throwing a large number of the wood-cutters and chicle-gatherers out of work.

The prices of all commodities fell in the year but as this was the case also in regard to the produce of the Colony the purchasing power of the inhabitants was not improved, and, as the year progressed, there was clear indication that a number of the people were living on savings which could not last indefinitely.

The situation already grave was made much worse by the hurricane disaster of 10th September, when relief measures had to be undertaken of necessity.

The tables included in this Report show that the volume of trade with Canada and the United Kingdom continues to increase, and that with the United States of America to decrease.

It is hoped that in the future it may be possible for sawn mahogany and cedar lumber to be exported direct to the London market. If more satisfactory direct shipping facilities between the Colony and the United Kingdom were available a greater volume of the British Honduras freight now shipped via New York would be carried in British vessels.

The total trade of the Colony amounted to \$7,346,424 which was less by \$2,113,869 than the total of \$9,460,293 in 1930.

The imports, exports, and total trade of the Colony during the last five years are shown in the following table :—

		1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Imports ...	...	4,534,804	4,481,748	5,056,673	4,925,330	4,435,358
Exports ...	...	4,547,528	4,041,502	4,876,875	4,534,963	2,911,066
Trade ...	...	9,082,332	8,523,250	9,933,548	9,460,293	7,346,424

The table following shows the percentages of trade with the Empire, the United States of America, and other foreign countries in 1931 compared with the trade of 1920 :—

	<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>		<i>Trade.</i>	
	1920.	1931.	1920.	1931.	1920.	1931.
United Kingdom and British Possessions...	17.45	47.26	14.88	53.69	16.17	49.82
United States of America	60.44	32.90	78.18	41.38	69.31	38.26
Other Countries	22.11	19.84	6.94	4.93	14.52	13.94

Imports.

The imports in 1931 amounted to \$4,435,358 as against \$4,925,330 in 1930; a decrease of \$489,972.

The direction of the import trade during the years 1927-1931 is shown in the following table :—

	1927.		1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	\$	Per cent.	\$	Per cent.	\$	Per cent.	\$	Per cent.	\$	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	689,528	15.25	834,681	18.62	888,406	17.57	687,324	13.95	745,024	16.80
Canada ...	599,105	13.21	792,411	17.68	1,105,403	21.86	1,188,837	24.14	1,289,767	29.80
Other British Possessions.	101,406	2.23	66,640	1.49	82,456	1.63	98,653	2.00	61,495	1.38
United States of America	2,093,237	46.15	1,795,669	40.07	1,992,670	39.41	1,730,051	35.13	1,459,006	32.90
Mexico...	546,276	12.04	528,292	11.78	410,239	8.11	563,983	11.45	357,599	8.06
Other Countries ...	505,252	11.12	464,055	10.36	577,499	11.42	656,582	13.33	522,467	11.78

A summary of the shipping trade, distinguishing between sailing, steam, and motor vessels, and British and foreign nationalities, is shown hereunder. The total tonnage was 643,229, an increase of 17,269 as compared with the previous year.

ENTERED.

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Sailing vessels.</i>	<i>Steamships and motor boats.</i>	<i>Total tonnage.</i>
British	2,736	76,476	79,212
United States of America ...	—	102,244	102,244
Other	1,105	144,710	145,815
Total ...	3,841	323,430	327,271

CLEARED.

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Sailing vessels.</i>	<i>Steamships and motor boats.</i>	<i>Total tonnage.</i>
British	2,613	76,903	79,516
United States of America ...	—	93,615	93,615
Other	781	142,046	142,827
Total ...	3,394	312,564	315,958

The total tonnage during the last five years was :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Inwards.</i>	<i>Outwards.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1927	341,063	337,714	678,777
1928	291,451	288,427	579,878
1929	312,581	312,691	625,272
1930	313,587	312,373	625,960
1931	327,271	315,958	643,229

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in British Honduras may be divided into two classes :—

- (i) Agricultural (including the timber industry).
- (ii) Industrial or skilled labour.

The average wages for agricultural labourers vary from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per month, including rations. Such labourers are engaged, principally, on sugar, coco-nut, and banana plantations. The average hours of work are 9 hours a day with an hour for lunch. Labourers residing on plantations are, usually, provided with free quarters (huts).

The wages paid to industrial or skilled labour are as follows :—

Artisans from \$1.00 to \$2.00 a day ; carpenters, shipwrights, painters, and masons from \$1.00 to \$2.50 a day.

In domestic service weekly wages, with board and lodging, for housemaids vary from \$1.25 to \$2.50 ; for cooks from \$1.50 to \$3.00.

Labourers in the Public Works Department and the Stann Creek Railway are paid as follows :—

Unskilled labourers, \$0.75 to \$1.25 a day.

Artisans, \$1.00 to \$2.00 a day.

In the out-districts the scale of wages was slightly lower than in Belize.

The following comparison between the staple food-stuffs of the average labourer and his wages is recorded :—

	cts.		
1 lb. Flour	= 4	... \$1.00 per diem =	25 lb.
1 lb. Rice	= 4	... \$1.00 „ „ =	25 „
1 lb. Beans	= 7	... \$1.00 „ „ =	14.29 lb.
1 lb. Mess Pork	= 13	... \$1.00 „ „ =	7.70 „

The cost of living is moderate. The staple diet of labourers is rice, flour, sugar, beans, local root crops (including yams, cassava, etc.), peas, fresh and salt-fish, pickled pork, beef, lard substitute, milk, eggs, vegetables, and fruit.

The average cost of living for Europeans is as follows :—

In Belize—in hotels—\$2.50 to \$3.00 a day.

In boarding houses—\$2.00 a day ; \$50.00 to \$60.00 a month.

In the out-districts there are no hotels or boarding houses available except at Corozal where there are a few hotels. The cost of living, generally, is slightly higher than in Belize.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The system of education is that of subsidized denominational church schools, and is controlled by a Board of Education appointed under the Education Ordinance, 1926 (No. 14 of 1926). Compulsory attendance is enforced in nearly all parts of the Colony and the number of schools included in these areas is sixty-four, fifty-four being grant-aided. The school officers of compulsory attendance areas are generally police constables and first alcaldes in Indian and Carib villages, except in Belize where a civilian is employed ; in school areas where there are no constables or alcaldes the law is not applied.

Grants-in-aid from general revenue are based principally on the teaching staff of the schools, which is regulated by the average monthly attendance of children between five and sixteen years.

The grants for the year amounted to \$72,271.56 ; \$11.93 *per capita* on an average daily attendance of 6,058.

The total cost to the Government inclusive of the cost of administration was \$77,327.27, or \$12.68 *per capita*.

There are a few private schools in Belize that receive no aid. The number of aided schools in operation during the year was 78 ;

One hundred and fifty-two teachers and an average of sixty-three pupil teachers were employed ; the average enrolment at all schools was 7,834, of whom 4,095 were boys and 3,739 girls ; the average attendance was 6,058. The total average roll in aided and un-aided schools was 8,161 and the average attendance 6,328.

Secondary education continues to be a private undertaking in connexion with the religious denominations. In Belize there are four schools, namely, the Diocesan High School for Girls conducted by the Anglican Church, the St. John's College for Boys conducted by the Jesuit Fathers, the St. Catherine's Academy conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, and the Diocesan High School for Boys conducted by the Anglican Church.

The average roll in these schools was 576, and the average attendance 530 ; but many pupils, of tender age, are not in the secondary department. The Cambridge University Examinations are taken.

These schools receive no aid from the Government except a capitation grant in respect of successful students at these examinations. The sum of \$1,044·00 was paid on the 1931 results.

There is no provision for technical education ; but mention might be made here of a Government Industrial School in the Stann Creek Valley where agriculture and farming are the principal features. There are no Universities. Evening classes are conducted in a few of the schools, one being the St. John's College.

There is no orphanage. There are two Government Poor Houses, one for men the other for women.

Out-door relief for a certain number of indigent persons is paid from the Treasury at a weekly rate of about \$90·00. The annual vote is \$5,000·00.

A society known as "The Women's Auxiliary," in connexion with the Anglican Church, and a St. Vincent de Paul Society in connexion with the Roman Catholic Church, assist indigent persons. Besides, each Church has its Poor Fund. The Salvation Army has a men's hostel and provides night lodging at cheap rates to sailors and others.

There are several Friendly Societies that insure their members for sickness and death. Their disbursement for the year was about \$3,655·00.

The British Honduras Infant Welfare League has been doing excellent work. This institution is supported by voluntary contributions.

There are several social clubs, the principal being the Polo Club, the Golf Club, and Newtown Tennis Club.

There are cricket, football, and basket ball leagues ; baseball is also played.

There are several musical associations. A cinema theatre in Belize affords entertainment on five days of the week. No facilities are provided in this Colony for the study of art.

The drama is given periodic attention by amateurs.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Internal transport in the Colony is mostly carried out by means of its many rivers (motor boats, pitpans, and doreys being the mediums used). Mule transport is the method of carriage between the Cayo District and the Peten District of Guatemala.

There are no roads in the Colony except a few short stretches around each town. There are, however, numerous bush tracks which are kept cleared by Government along which motor cars can sometimes run for short distances in the dry season.

A short railway from Commerce Bight, in the Stann Creek District, runs 25 miles inland through very fertile country.

The Burdon Canal connects the Belize and Sibun Rivers. Another canal connects the Sibun River with Northern Lagoon.

No tram car or omnibus service exists in the towns. Transport of passengers is done by automobiles, and of goods by motor trucks and drays.

Coastwise transport is done by means of motor vessels and sailing boats. External transport is carried on entirely by sea.

There is a steamship service fortnightly between Belize and New Orleans and approximately once a month between Belize and New York by ships of the United Fruit Company.

The Canadian National steamships provide a fortnightly service between Belize and Kingston, Jamaica, connecting with the Bahamas, Bermuda, and Canada.

Ships of the Harrison Line from Liverpool about once every six weeks and of the United Fruit Company from Monile about once a fortnight call at Belize.

There is regular and frequent communication with the neighbouring Republics.

A weekly air mail service northward through Mexico to Miami and southward through the Central American Republics to Panama is provided by the planes of the Pan American Airways, Inc.

There are 26 post offices in the Colony. The number of articles dealt with in 1931 was 727,924. Money and Postal Order business amounting to \$95,373 internal and \$131,736 foreign was done in 1931.

There are 48 telephone offices (transacting also telegraph business). The local telegraph system is connected by cable across the Rio Hondo with Payo Obispo, by means of which telegraph business is transacted through Mexico with countries abroad.

A wireless station exists in Belize for transacting radio-telegraph business with foreign stations. In 1931, 7,422 radio telegrams were transmitted and 7,935 received.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There is a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada at Belize. This was established in October, 1912, when the Bank of British Honduras was bought over as a going concern by the former. Banking business of every character is conducted. There is no note issue.

Currency.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43 respectively. There is also a subsidiary silver currency of 50 cents, 25 cents, 10 cents, and 5 cents, nickel 5-cent pieces, and bronze 1-cent pieces, coined specially for the Colony. There is a paper currency of 10, 5, and 2 dollars and 1 dollar issued by the Government. Notes of the United States of America circulate freely. The Government note issue is administered by Currency Commissioners, the gold and other securities by which it is secured being, for the time being, in the custody of the Royal Bank of Canada.

Weights and Measures.

The standard Imperial weights and measures are prescribed by the Weights and Measures Ordinance, Chapter 63 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924, but the following local weights and measures are also in use :—

Weights.

1 Arroba	...	...	...	...	...	25 lb.
1 Quintal	...	...	...	...	...	100 lb.

Dry Measure.

1 Almud	...	...	...	5 quarts.
1 Cargo	...	...	...	60 quarts.
1 Baril	...	...	...	110 quarts.
1 Benequen	...	...	...	15 quarts.
1 Quarto	...	...	...	2½ quarts or ½ almud.
1 Shushack	...	...	...	4 almuds or 20 quarts.

Land Measure.

1 Mecate	...	...	...	25 yards square.
1 Vara	...	...	...	1½ths of a yard.

The testing of weights and measures throughout the Colony is carried out periodically by the Police who are the custodians of the Colonial standards.

There is no agricultural or co-operative bank.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any magnitude were undertaken during the year. The expenditure on maintenance of Government buildings was \$11,236, on maintenance and improvement of roads \$44,195, on unemployment relief \$1,997; arrangements were made for the commencement of a reclamation and drainage scheme of a portion of the northern section of Belize and a sum of \$28,209 was expended on the purchase of plant, etc. This scheme was made possible by funds provided from the Colonial Development Fund.

After the hurricane in September, the clearing of the streets and other duties of the Board were carried out for a limited period by the Public Works Department.

Repairs and replacement of Government property destroyed by the hurricane were effected by this Department at a cost of \$78,727.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The English Common Law and all statutes of the Imperial Parliament "in abrogation or derogation, or in any way declaratory of the Common Law" passed before 1899 extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable and subject to modification by Colonial ordinances.

Petty civil courts (termed "District Courts") are established in each of the six magisterial districts. Each Court is presided over by a District Commissioner who is *ex officio* judge of the Court. The jurisdiction is limited to claims not exceeding \$100. An appeal lies to the Supreme Court from any judgment or order of the District Court.

When dealing with cases which can be tried summarily a District Commissioner or Justice of the Peace exercises jurisdiction under the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinances, and subject to these Ordinances, has also the powers, privileges, rights, and jurisdiction conferred on Justices of the Peace by the Common Law of England. Appeals from the jurisdiction of District Commissioners lie to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court of British Honduras is governed by Chapter 153 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924, and is presided over by the Chief Justice. The jurisdiction is the same as that of a High Court of Justice in England. Appeal lies from this Court to the Privy Council. The Court holds quarterly sessions at Belize, during January, April, July, and October, and at Corozal similar sessions during March, June, September, and December.

The following statistics show the number of criminal offences before the Courts of the Colony during the year :—

Persons charged by Police	...	...	...	807
„ „ otherwise	...	...	...	95
				— 902
Convicted summarily	...	...	...	633
Acquitted summarily	...	...	...	224
Committed to Supreme Court	...	...	...	45
				— 902
Convicted by Supreme Court	...	...	...	29
Acquitted	...	...	...	8
Nolle prosequi	...	...	...	8
				— 45

Police.

The British Honduras Police Force consists of 3 officers and 118 other ranks. There are 24 stations in the Colony 18 of which are in telephonic communication.

The Police are responsible for the supervision of aliens and undesirable immigrants, and are trained in traffic regulations and signals. Applicants for drivers' licences are examined by the Police before the licences are granted by the Municipal Board.

Prisons.

The main prison in Belize is a substantial brick building with 102 separate cells, each having an average of 582 feet of cubic space. There are no association wards except the sick ward. The prisoners are employed in association during the day in gangs outside, and in workshops indoors. At night separation is complete.

The female prison consists of a concrete building with six roomy cells with approximately 700 cubic feet of space each. In each of the five Districts of the Colony there are small prisons which are really lockups. The Corozal District has the largest with concrete walls around it. Only prisoners who are sentenced to three months and under are confined in the District Prisons. Prisoners sentenced to more than three months are sent to Belize Prison. The District Prisons are under the direct orders of the District Commissioner and are visited from time to time by the Superintendent of the Prison at Belize, who reports on their condition and makes such recommendations as he may consider desirable.

There is no accommodation for the separation of juvenile offenders, but they are kept apart as much as possible from old offenders. Boys under sixteen who commit offences are sent to the Government Industrial School at Pomona, Stann Creek. There is no probation

system in force at present, but an Ordinance to provide for one will be enacted shortly. The general health of the prisoners at the Belize Prison was good.

Whenever it is considered desirable so to do, District Commissioners allow time for payment of fines.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Ordinances.

The undermentioned Ordinances were passed during the year 1931 :—

- No. 1.—The District Boards (Amendment) Ordinance provides for horses, vehicles, etc., certified to be used wholly or partially on the public service to be exempted wholly or partially from the payment of licensing fees.
- No. 2.—The General Revenue Appropriation Ordinance.
- No. 3.—The District Local Funds Appropriation Ordinance.
- No. 4.—The Land and Property Tax (Amendment) Ordinance provides for an increase in the tax on lands served by the Stann Creek Railway.
- No. 5.—The Stann Creek Development Board Ordinance provides for the establishment of such a Board.
- No. 6.—The Medical Service and Institutions (Amendment) Ordinance provides for the fees due by inmates of a Government institution to be recovered from certain relatives.
- No. 7.—The Towns Property Tax (Amendment) Ordinance exempts from taxation buildings and land appurtenant thereto used exclusively for religious or charitable purposes.
- No. 8.—The Milk and Cream (Amendment) Ordinance varies the minimum percentage of butterfat necessary in milk imported into the Colony and authorizes the prohibition of the importation of any particular brand of milk or cream.
- No. 9.—The Pilotage (Amendment) Ordinance levies a rental of 25 cents per annum on lands occupied by houses the property of pilots.
- No. 10.—The Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance varies the regulations governing the re-employment of pensioners and amends the regulations governing the payment of death gratuities to civil servants.
- No. 11.—The District Local Funds Supplementary Appropriation (1929–30) Ordinance.
- No. 12.—The General Revenue Supplementary Appropriation (1929–30) Ordinance.

- No. 13.—The Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance provides for the issue of licences to conduct sweepstakes, etc., for a charitable or deserving object.
- No. 14.—The Undesirable Immigrants (Amendment) Ordinance regulates the admission into the Colony of theatrical companies, circus troupes, or similar concerns.
- No. 15.—The Passports Ordinance regulates the issue and production of passports and the grants of visas, etc.
- No. 16.—The Registration of United Kingdom Patents (Amendment) Ordinance reduces certain fees payable in connexion with the local registration of English patents.
- No. 17.—The Belize Town Board (Amendment) Ordinance provides for the prosecution of persons obstructing, impeding, and molesting officers and members of the Town Board of Belize in the discharge of their duties or in their official capacity, etc.
- No. 18.—The Electric Light and Power (Amendment) Ordinance amends the existing law in respect of offences for abstracting, etc., electricity.
- No. 19.—To validate a Proclamation issued on 11th September, 1931.
- No. 20.—The Employment of Young Persons and Children Ordinance regulates the employment of children between 12 and 16 years in industrial undertakings.
- No. 21.—The Employment of Women Ordinance regulates the employment of women in industrial undertakings.
- No. 22.—The Belize Town Board (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance amends the law governing the licensing of horses, mules, and vehicles.
- No. 23.—The District Board (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance amends the law governing the licensing in the out-districts, of horses, mules, and vehicles.
- No. 24.—The Sponges Export Duty Ordinance, regulates the exportation of sponges and provides for payment of a duty on sponges exported.
- No. 25.—The Finance Ordinance imposes (1) a package tax of 5 cents a package, (2) an additional 10 per centum on income-tax in respect of the year 1930–31, and (3) certain additional duties, and makes further provision in connexion with finance.

Subsidiary Legislation.

The undermentioned subsidiary legislation was enacted during the year :—

Regulation by the Harbour Board in regard to the fitting of silencers, mufflers, or other devices on motor boat engines, to reduce noise—10th January.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty, for 3 years, certain materials used in connexion with the manufacture of soap—24th January.

Rules amending the rates of fees for patients in Government hospitals, etc.—31st January.

Proclamation (No. 1) ordering the taking of a census on 26th April—31st January.

Order by the Governor in Council applying Part IV of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance to di-hydro-morphinone and its salts—21st February.

Regulations by the Collector of Customs amending the Regulations governing the re-packing of goods in a King's Warehouse—21st February.

Regulation prohibiting, for one year, the gathering of sponges at Turneffe—28th February.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty certain souvenir buttons—28th February.

Regulation amending the Pensions Regulations—7th March.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty for 3 years resin and tallow for use in connexion with the manufacture of soap—7th March.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty reinforcing material for use in the construction of a sea wall at Loyola Park—21st March.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty empty bags and sacks to be used in connexion with the manufacture of sugar, and empty casks to be employed in the production and distillation of local rum—28th March.

Rules regarding inventions made by persons employed in the Government Service of British Honduras—11th April.

Order by the Governor in Council declaring a certain area to be no longer an "infected area" under Chapter 75 of the Consolidated Laws 1924—11th April.

Regulation providing for the transmission, by air mail, of Money Order Advices—16th May.

Proclamation (No. 3) prohibiting the importation of fruits and vegetables and other articles unless accompanied by a certificate—30th May.

Proclamation (No. 4) defining the limits and boundaries of the town of El Cayo—4th July.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty certain souvenir flag pins—25th July.

Order by the Governor in Council exempting from the payment of import duty certain fireworks imported by the Committee in connexion with the St. George's Caye Day celebrations—8th August.

Regulation by the Harbour Board in regard to the fitting of silencers, mufflers, or other devices on motor boat engines to reduce noise—8th August.

Regulations by the Harbour Board for the control of the lower reaches of the Belize River and the maintenance of good order therein—8th August.

Proclamation (No. 6) prohibiting persons from being on the streets of Belize after sunset except under permit—24th September.

Order by the Governor in Council ordering that the District Commissioner's Court be held at the Police Station on certain days each week—24th September.

Regulation providing for the issue and payment of British Imperial Postal and British Money Orders at certain rates of exchange—26th September.

Regulation increasing the rates of postage on letters to the United States of America—24th October.

Regulation amending the rates of commission on Inland Money Orders—31st October.

Regulation imposing a clearance fee in respect of certain parcels cleared from the Post Office—31st October.

Regulation varying the rates of postage on inland letters, and letters to Canada and the British West Indies—31st October.

Rule varying the rates of Subsistence Allowances paid to Government Officers—7th November.

Proclamation (No. 9) repealing Ordinance No. 19 of 1931 which validated Proclamation No. 6 of 1931—7th November.

There is no legislative provision relating to (a) factories ; (b) compensation for accidents ; (c) sickness, old age, etc.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Colony for the financial year ended 31st March, 1932, amounted to \$875,045 or \$285,400 less than the previous year and \$188,498 less than the amount estimated.

The total expenditure was \$1,035,600, a saving of \$55,384 on the estimate and \$51,447 less than the expenditure in the previous year.

The totals of the revenue and expenditure for the last six years are given below :—

				<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
				\$	\$
1926-27 ...	...	...	...	1,116,432	1,040,490
1927-28 ...	...	...	...	1,068,212	1,112,083
1928-29 ...	...	...	...	1,039,666	1,046,877
1929-30 ...	...	...	...	1,036,068	1,023,603
1930-31 ...	...	...	...	1,160,445	1,087,047
1931-32 ...	...	...	...	875,045	1,035,600

Public Debt.

At the close of the year the funded public debt stood at \$1,869,407·34. In addition, the total outstanding on advance account in connexion with reconstruction work amounted to \$123,162·89. The total of the accumulated sinking funds towards redemption of the funded debt was \$195,803·79.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets which consist chiefly of investments, advances, building and company loans, and cash in hand amounted at 31st March, 1932, to a total of \$884,777·58. The main liabilities were :—

Savings Bank depositors \$198,758·80 ; Bills Payable \$75,000 and Surplus, and Reserve Funds, with balances amounting to \$128,754·64 and \$113,036·21 respectively, in aid of the general revenue. There is a Fire Insurance Fund with a balance of \$57,994·58 to provide against loss of Government buildings by fire ; also a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund and a Public Officers' Guarantee Fund with balances of \$24,271·87 and \$8,260·73 respectively. The difference is made up of sundry deposits, etc.

Taxation.

The main heads of taxation are :—

1. Customs Import and Export Duties.
2. Excise Duty.
3. Land Tax.
4. Income-tax.
5. Licences, Banks and Fire Insurance Companies.
6. Fines of Courts.
7. Estate Duty.
8. Fees of Courts and Stamp Duties.
9. Warehouse Rents.

The *Customs Import Duties* are principally on the *ad valorem* basis with specific duties on wines, spirits, and tobacco. The general rate at *ad valorem* is 10 per cent. and 20 per cent. under the British preferential and general tariffs respectively. From 22nd December, 1931, a surtax of 25 per cent. was imposed on almost all the *ad valorem* duties except articles of food, and certain increases were made on some of the specific duties. A package tax at the rate of 5 cents per package was also introduced with effect from 1st January, 1932.

Export Duties are collected on mahogany and cedar logs (but not on sawn timber), chicle, including re-exports, and liquors re-exported.

An *Excise Duty* at the rate of \$3·00 per proof gallon is imposed on rum manufactured in the Colony and entered for home consumption.

Land Tax at the rate of 2 cents an acre is paid on all lands other than land in a town. Lands served by the Stann Creek Railway pay an additional tax of 8 cents earmarked for improvements and road construction; but refunds are made on improved land.

The *Income-tax* rate is low, the percentage of tax on chargeable incomes up to \$60,000 being 9·59 per cent. only.

Fines of Courts are casual; and *Estate Duty* is fixed at a very low rate as the aggregate annual yield will show.

The principal *Stamp Duties* are 2 cents on cheques, receipts, and bills of exchange, and 5 cents per \$100 on promissory notes. On transfers of property the rate is 20 cents per \$100.

Warehouse Rents are charged on merchandise which is deposited in bond principally for re-export.

The following table shows the yield of each head during the last five years :—

	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Customs, Import and Export Duties.	645,131	626,895	641,844	711,745	546,785
Excise Duty	99,117	90,321	79,821	84,561	60,873
Land Tax	42,714	47,603	46,610	45,973	36,807
Income-tax	43,483	42,978	36,162	37,133	29,259
Licences, Banks and Fire Insurance Cos.	1,584	1,488	1,605	1,669	1,413
Fines of Courts	6,204	4,939	4,954	6,349	5,014
Estate Duty	—	1,717	2,109	944	1,429
Fees of Courts and Stamp Duties	21,095	19,554	21,561	19,272	12,121
Warehouse Rents	22,829	25,996	28,019	25,155	19,040

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The effects of the world-wide economic depression were keenly felt in the Colony in 1931. There was no market for the Colony's staple products, mahogany and chicle, and the unemployment situation became severe. To accentuate the already difficult position, the Colony suffered the most awful calamity in its history: on 10th September a hurricane and tidal wave—the first in 144 years—struck Belize and its environs leaving in its wake, death, destruction, and privation. The actual number of lives lost will never be known because, to protect the health of the survivors, great funeral pyres had to be raised in certain areas where the death-roll was heaviest, and the task of removing the dead from the labyrinth of destruction was rendered almost impossible. The deaths are estimated to have been over a thousand, and the injured nearly as many. Damage to property is estimated at nearly half the total value of property in the town, aggregating in value to well over one million dollars. The Government radio station was put out of action, also the station of the Pan American Airways. The following day, however, the latter station was got into working

order and news of the disaster communicated to the outside world. As a result, United States naval airplanes, with medical personnel and supplies, and United States warships, arrived the next day. The assistance rendered in furnishing supplies, caring for the injured, and burying the dead was extremely welcome. Assistance in the form of further medical personnel and supplies, by airplane and otherwise, was rendered by the United Fruit Company and the Governments of Mexico and Guatemala.

H.M.S. *Danae* arrived from Barbados via Jamaica on the 16th and brought additional supplies of food and water. The officers and men rendered valuable assistance in clearing the town and in preserving order.

A loan of £325,000 has since been obtained under the Imperial Tanganyika and British Honduras Loans Act, 1932, from the Local Loans Fund for the reconstruction of public and private property, the development of agricultural settlement, and other purposes, and, with the establishment of a Loan Board, funds are being placed at the disposal of property owners on a mortgage basis. As the currency of British Honduras is based on the gold standard, the depreciation of sterling will, of course, reduce the total sum available for expenditure in the Colony.

Relief, in cash and kind, has been received from all quarters, and it would be impossible to enumerate the details herein, but the Colony is grateful for the manifestations of sympathy and the assistance rendered, not only by the British Treasury, but also by the Government of the United States, the British West Indian Colonies, and other parts of the Empire, and by individuals and companies all over the world.

The motto on the Arms of the Colony is "*sub umbra floreo*," and the population of the Colony is showing itself worthy of its motto by its spirit in rising triumphant over its disasters.

H. G. PILLING,

12th December, 1932.

Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX.

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Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.	9d. (10d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.)	1s. (1s. 5d.).
Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery.	2s. (2s. 2d.).
Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth.	£1 1s. (£1 1s. 9d.).
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Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings.	2s. 6d. (2s. 11d.).
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Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
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Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
The Storage of Tropicallly-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
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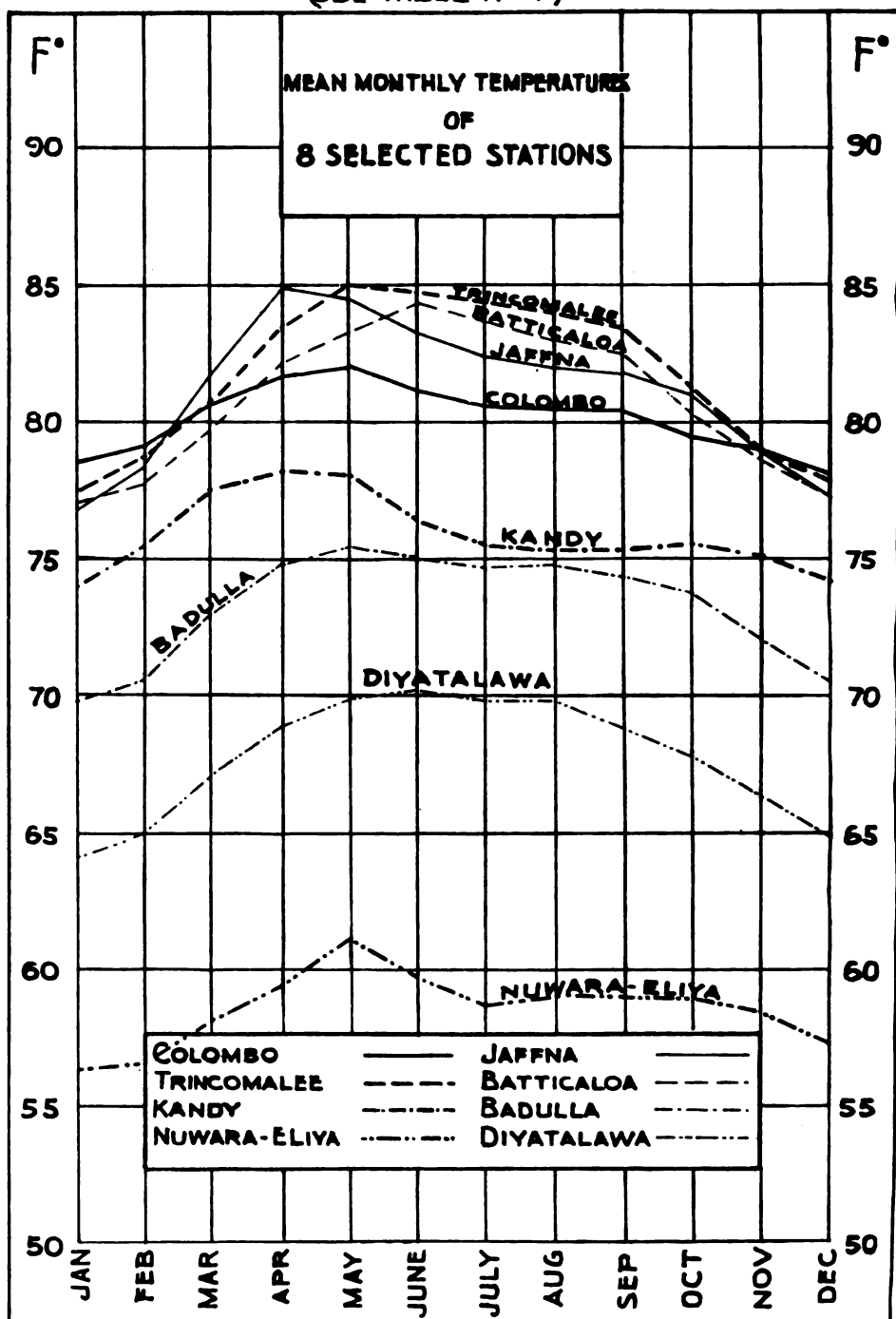


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DIAGRAM N^o 1
(SEE TABLE N^o 1)



Annual General Report for 1931 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Geography, including Climate, and History.

GEOGRAPHY.

CEYLON is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian peninsula, lying between $5^{\circ} 55'$ and $9^{\circ} 50'$ N. latitude and $79^{\circ} 42'$ and $81^{\circ} 53'$ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has much in common with it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo to the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon, as shown on a large scale map, has an irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed in many parts of it by the sand barriers thrown up through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the eastern side of the Island which is less accessible, populous, and fertile than the western. The third was, at one time, the principal harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

CLIMATE.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is fairly good for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103.7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27.1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103.7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80 (Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo and Badulla 82, Jaffna 81, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76). At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from S.-W. to N.-E., causes a corresponding change in the localities of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island. The mean temperature during the year varied from 82.5° in Mannar to 60.1° in Nuwara Eliya.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1931 were 89 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the mean monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

HISTORY.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavamsa*, circa 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvasa*, from circa 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandians, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

THE CONSTITUTION.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927-28. The new Constitution is formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

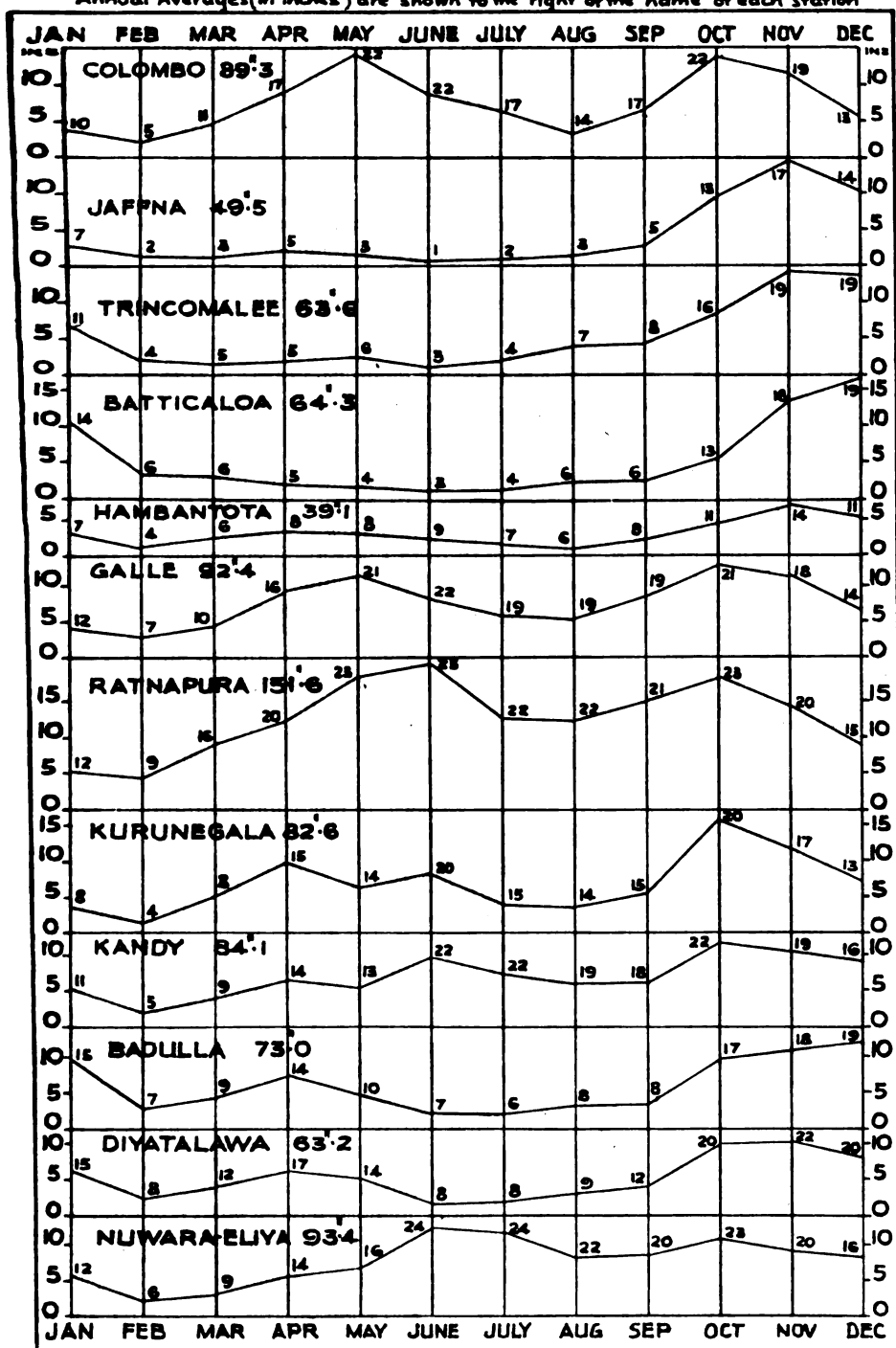
The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, and the Executive Council in July of the same year, their place being taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7.

DIAGRAM No 2
(SEE TABLE No 2)

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the numbers of wet days
Annual Averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



The new Council consists, at its *full strength, of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, †Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,‡ "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.§ Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings:—

- I. Home Affairs.
- II. Agriculture and Lands.
- III. Local Administration.
- IV. Health.
- V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
- VI. Education.
- VII. Communications and Works.

The Executive Committees having been elected, each Committee proceeds by secret ballot to elect a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee was elected to administer. (But it is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee.) Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows:—

- (a) The preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
- (b) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.

* At the time of writing, four seats representing constituencies in the Northern Province, remain unfilled, no nomination papers having been submitted during the general election in June, 1931.

† Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).

‡ Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.

§ The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

- (c) The consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
- (d) The consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but may not amend. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council.

† The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡ Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

† Article 22 of the Order in Council.

‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western ..	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western ..	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central ..	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central ..	Anuradhapura
Southern ..	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva ..	Badulla
Northern ..	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaitivu	Sabaragamuwa ..	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern ..	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachecheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts: "Mudaliyar" in the maritime Sinhalese districts; "Ratemahatmaya" in the Kandayan districts; "Maniagar", "Adigar", and "Vanniya" in the Tamil districts. There are about 106 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more "Muhandirams". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts "Vidane Arachchi", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the "Korala", and in the Tamil districts the "Udaiyar". There are about 619 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 4,000. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the rate payers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15, or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote.

In eleven of the smaller towns there are Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen. Two-thirds of the members are elected by the rate payers. Such Councils have not in the past been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the ten years since this type of Council was first devised there has been singularly little demand.

Eleven of the other smaller towns are administered by Local Boards of Health and Improvement, composed of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent (the chief revenue officer) as Chairman, the two local officials of the Public Health and Public Works Departments and three elected members. The administration of the town of Nuwara Eliya is in the hands of a somewhat similar body, known as the Board of Improvement.

Groups of even smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various provinces and districts consisting of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health and Public Works Departments and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration is carried on for all such towns in a district from the district headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are

met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the central government.

For the rural areas Village Committees have been established the members of which are elected, with elected Chairmen where the inhabitants so desire. These deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with irrigation.

Roads other than main thoroughfares are maintained by District Committees while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

With the inauguration of the new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee. The Committee has already taken steps to establish several more Urban District Councils, to convert the existing Local Boards into Urban District Councils and also to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an entirely elected Council with an elected Chairman.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—The population of Ceylon (inclusive of the military and the shipping) according to the Census of February 26, 1931, amounted to 5,312,545 persons, compared with 4,504,549 at the Census of 1921. This shows an increase of 17.94 per cent. for the decade. The military and the shipping population amounted to 1,387 and 4,290, as against 951 and 4,993 in 1921.

The Census of 1931 was a partial one, and details by race were not collected except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates. Rough estimates based on the proportions of the races in 1921 are given in the following table:—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	3,000	9,154
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,316	3,473,029
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
Total	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871**

Note.—The figures shown above do not include the population of the Maldives which was 79,281 at the Census of 1931 as against 70,413 in 1921.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) of the nine Provinces of the Island according to the Censuses of 1921 and 1931 is given below:—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15.9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32.8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14.9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6.4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10.2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11.1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	.9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29.7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22.6
Miscellaneous population ‡	751	8	—

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.

† Excludes the military and the shipping.

‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Bassetts.

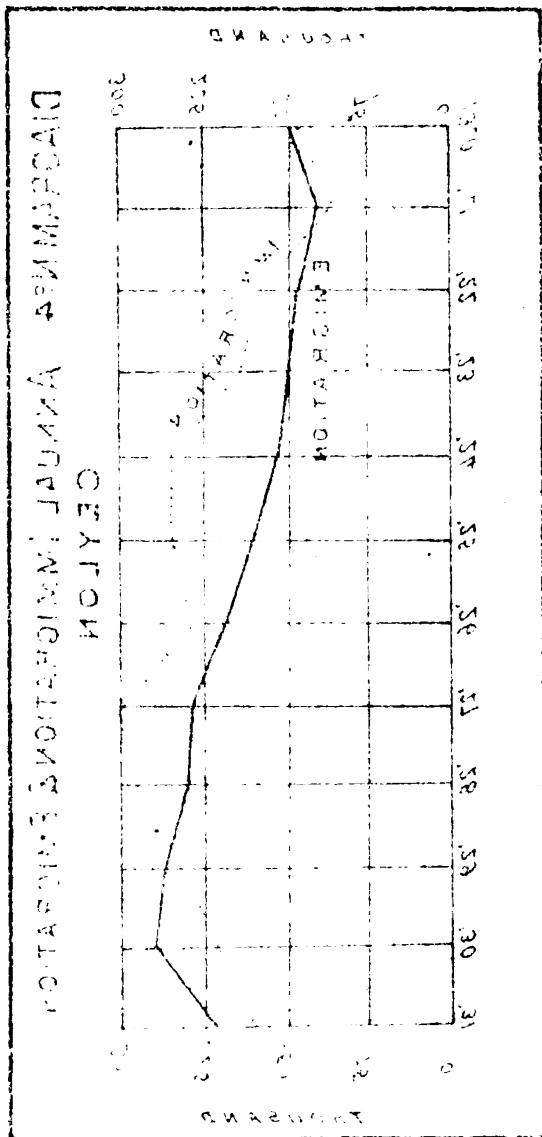
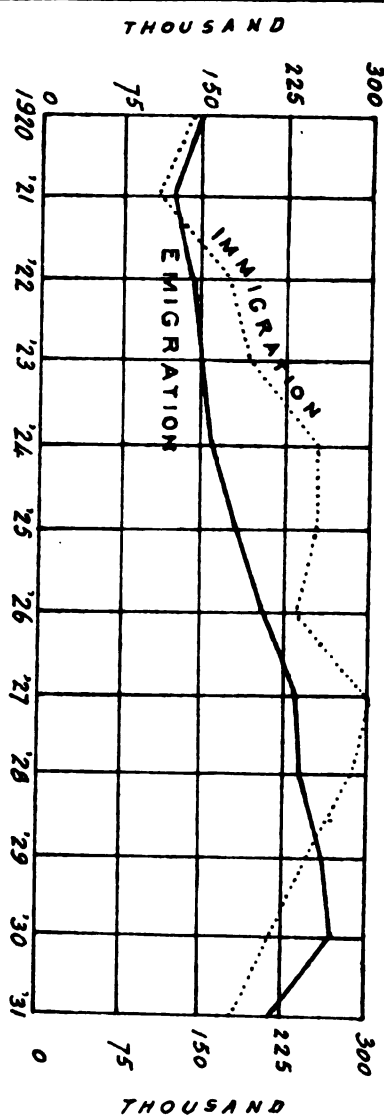


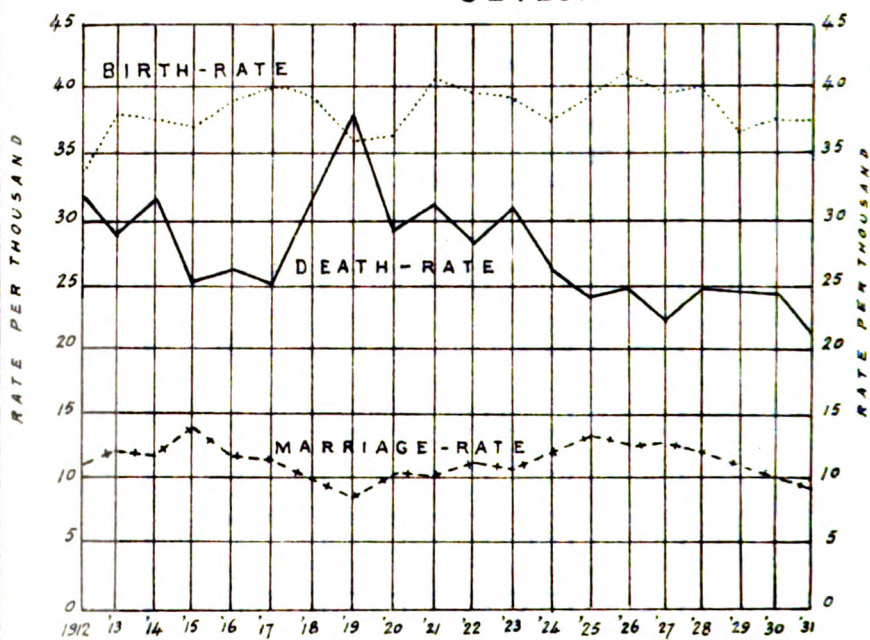
DIAGRAM N^o 4 ANNUAL IMMIGRATION & EMIGRATION CEYLON



Registrar General's Department

L. O. M. 12

DIAGRAM N°3 BIRTH-DEATH & MARRIAGE-RATES
CEYLON



Registrar General's Department

120 25

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 183,122 and the departures to 214,703. The number of arrivals during the year is the lowest since 1922 and the departures the lowest since 1926. The arrivals are more frequent in the second and third quarters of the year, and the departures in the first and second. The arrivals from India alone numbered 162,738 or 89 per cent. of the total arrivals, while the arrivals from other countries amounted to 20,384 persons or the remaining 11 per cent. Among the departures 198,562 or 92 per cent. were bound for India and 16,141 or 8 per cent. for other countries. The number of estate labourers who arrived from India was 68,337 in 1931, as compared with 91,422 in 1930 and 118,275 the average for the years 1926 to 1930. The number who left the Island was 75,866, as against 98,728 in 1930 and 88,460 the average (1926 to 1930).

Marriages.—The number of general and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 24,544, which is 961 less than in the preceding year. The general marriages alone numbered 19,308 and the Kandyan 5,236, the respective numbers for the previous year being 20,218 and 5,287. The average number of general and Kandyan marriages registered during the past decade was 27,307. The number of persons married during the year both in the general and Kandyan communities was 49,088, which corresponded to a rate of 9.9, as against 10.4 in the previous year and 11.8 the average for the years 1921-1930. The marriages registered among the Muslims numbered 1,157, an increase of 82 on the number for the previous year. The average number of marriages per annum in the past decade was 932. The Muslim marriage rate was 6.5 and is comparatively low. This is due to a very considerable number of Muslim marriages not being registered according to law.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance can be granted only by the District Courts, while those under the Kandyan Ordinance are granted by Government Agents and their Assistants.

There were reported during the year 128 divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance and 539 under the Kandyan. The numbers during the preceding year were 97 and 582 respectively. There is always a much higher percentage of divorces to marriages in the Kandyan community than in the General; and this, in some measure, is due to the greater facilities for annulling the marriage tie afforded by the Kandyan law in comparison with the General law.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 199,170 (101,399 males and 97,771 females). The nearest approach to this year's figure was in 1929, when the number of births was 198,005. Compared with the number for the preceding year this year's figure is 5,936 less.

The birth rate for the year was equal to 37.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 39.0 in the preceding year and 39.4 the average for the ten years 1921-1930.

Sex Proportion at Birth.—Of the births registered during the year the proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children was 1,037. In the preceding year there were 1,035 male children to every 1,000 female children.

Deaths.—The deaths of 117,453 persons (58,859 males and 58,594 females) were registered in 1931, as against 133,708 in 1930 and 128,916 the average for the ten years 1921-1930. The death rate for the year under review was equal to 22.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 25.4 in 1930. The average death rate for the past decade was 26.2.

Infant Mortality.—By infant mortality is meant the deaths of children under one year of age, and the rate is stated in terms of 1,000 births registered in that year. During the year under review the deaths of infants numbered 31,439, as against 35,877 in the preceding year and 35,381 the average for the past decade. The number of infant deaths, which represents 26.8 per cent. of the total deaths, was equal to a rate of 158 per 1,000 births, as against 175 in 1930 and 182 the average for the past decade. The birth rate in Ceylon is very high compared with that prevailing in some Western countries. The infant mortality rate is greatly influenced by the birth rate, so that it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant mortality rate in countries that have high birth rates, and a low

infant mortality rate in countries that have low birth rates. Several Child Welfare Centres have within recent years been formed by different social service leagues and the Government is also devoting attention to the reduction of infant mortality in the various health units spread over the Island. These measures are producing good results though slowly.

Causes of Deaths.—The classification of causes of death is based on the International or Bertillon System. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of death among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value, but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever and they are tabulated under the vague title "Pyrexia". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1931 was 16,553—or 14.1 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 19,106 in the previous year. There is no doubt that, among the large number of deaths from this vague cause, a considerable number are actually deaths from malaria. Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions, from which during the year there were 12,135 deaths—or 10.3 per cent. of the total deaths. The records show that more than one-quarter of the deaths registered in the Island are attributed to Pyrexia and Convulsions—the latter among the infants and children of tender years. This year, however, the number of deaths from these two causes is a little less than a quarter of the total deaths. The death rates from some of the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1930 and 1931 as per million of the estimated population are given below:—

Causes.	Rate per Million.		Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1930.	1931.		1930.	1931.
Pyrexia	3,634 ..	3,108 ..	Ankylostomiasis	443 ..	422 ..
Infantile convulsions	2,937 ..	2,279 ..	Influenza	394 ..	449 ..
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,793 ..	1,301 ..	Puerperal septicaemia	304 ..	277 ..
Pneumonia	1,514 ..	1,432 ..	Bronchitis	259 ..	278 ..
Dysentery	688 ..	469 ..	Enteric fever	160 ..	149 ..
Phthisis	631 ..	596 ..	Cancer	87 ..	88 ..
Malaria and malarial cachexia	454 ..	312 ..			
Premature birth and congenital defects	446 ..	396 ..			

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 107 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,410 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

In connection with the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 87 estate hospitals, who receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 605 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 720 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers (Civil), Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

ANTI-MALARIAL WORK.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of Anti-Malaria Campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 13,409 lb. and 2,269,775 tablets have been issued during 1931.

SANITARY ENGINEERING DIVISION.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

ESTATE SANITATION.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and three Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 815 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1931, 27 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 267 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala, Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas was started in Moratuwa and in Dehiwala. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with clinics and child welfare centres.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

ORDINANCES.

An Anti-Mosquito Ordinance is before the Executive Committee of Health for consideration, a Milk and Dairies Ordinance is under the consideration of the Attorney-General, and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as certain amendments are under consideration at present.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	47	45	Kegalla	1	1
Rambukkana	1	1			
Panadure	1	1	Total	50	48

The year compares rather unfavourably with 1930 in which there were 46 cases with 42 deaths. The fatality rate in 1931 was 96 per cent. which is 4.7 higher than that of the previous year.

PLAGUE IN COLOMBO.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1929 to 1931:—

	1929.			1930.			1931.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
Total	40	36	90.0	40	38	95.0	47	45	95.7
Septicaemic	15	15	100.0	14	14	100.0	17	17	100.0
Bubonic	25	21	84.0	25	23	92.0	29	27	93.1
Pneumonic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	100.0
Cutaneous	—	—	—	1	1	100.0	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred during the first quarter of the year, 15 cases occurring in February alone.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 47 cases, 42 were males and 5 females.

Rat Plague.—28,051 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 24 or .09 per cent. were found infected as against .06 per cent. in 1930. There were no epidemics in Ceylon this year, the cases occurring sporadically.

Smallpox.—There were 9 cases of smallpox, with 3 deaths, giving a fatality rate of 33.3 per cent., as against 41 cases with 6 deaths during 1930.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo—Port	2	—
Kayts	1	—
Trincomalee	5	2
Mullaivittu	1	1
Total	9	3

The only epidemic this year was at Trincomalee. The first case of this outbreak occurred in the person of a Brahmin priest who arrived from Madurai in South India in November. He was first treated for measles. During the last stage of the disease it was suspected to be smallpox. The second case was in the person of his daughter, and the third in the person of his washerman. The fourth case was in the person of a labourer in the infected area, and the fifth in the person of a carpenter for whom case No. 3 had washed clothes. Of these five cases two proved fatal.

The Mullaivittu case occurred in the person of a brother of case No. 4 of the Trincomalee outbreak. He had gone to Trincomalee on a visit to his brother, and had escaped detention and returned to Mullaivittu where he fell ill in December, and died.

Cholera.—There were six cases and all of them ended fatally. No cases occurred in the previous year.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	3	3
Pesalai	2	2
Talaimannar	1	1
Total	6	6

The cases at Colombo were unconnected and proved fatal. One, an Indian Muslim, was a contact of a case that occurred at Mandapam Camp. The other two cases were in the persons of a Tamil labourer, who worked and lived in the

arges in the harbour, and a Sinhalese woman. The source of infection in these two cases could not be determined.

The two cases at Pesalai occurred in the persons of 2 Ceylon Tamil fishermen. The first case acquired infection by direct contact with a case of cholera in Ramanad District in South India, and the second case was infected by the first.

The Talaimannar case occurred in the person of a Ceylon Tamil fisherman who was a direct contact of a case of cholera at Thangachimadam in South India.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

THE general housing in Ceylon, considering the comparative poverty of the country, is fairly satisfactory: the investment of money in a house is popular, and any member of a Ceylonese family making money will early endeavour to construct a suitable house of his own.

Moreover, secure and safe investments presenting attractions to Ceylonese are restricted and considerable accumulated wealth is used in house construction or money is raised for the purpose by mortgages.

There is a further tendency on the part of Ceylonese with private means to live in towns, thus creating a great demand for housing especially in times of prosperity.

The general growth of business in the last fifty years, a doubling of the acreage in estates and their greatly improved efficiency combined with the general growth of wealth, have led to a considerable demand for land in almost all towns with a resultant heavy increase in the price of all urban building land.

Thus, though the price of land has been high, the needs of middle and better class people have in general been adequately met, though rents remain high.

However, for the working classes, private enterprise has done comparatively little. The price of land and the general poverty prevailing preclude the building of houses for them which will secure returns comparable to those provided by construction of middle class houses. It is doubtful whether economic rents will be possible unless the value of land falls considerably.

In Colombo the result has been that the working classes are largely housed in houses erected for other purposes and ill adapted for working class dwellings, while many portions of the town are definitely slums.

The problem has been tackled—

- (1) By a steady effort to mitigate the effects of overcrowding, by sanitary improvements, the provision of adequate water-borne drainage, water, easily available medical relief, &c.
- (2) By modifications in construction to permit more adequate supplies of light and air, to facilitate scavenging, &c. Much has been done by steady work in this respect.
- (3) By housing Municipal employees in new houses, thus lessening the pressure on the rentable dwellings.

Largely by (1) alone the infantile death rate has been greatly decreased and the general death rate for Colombo reduced to 25.1 per thousand of the population.

However the main and really only solution is large numbers of new houses.

The Colombo Municipality has taken up the question of the Kochchikade slums and is acquiring $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres, with the intention of complete demolition and rebuilding at a cost of over Rs. 1,000,000, where it is hoped to house over 2,000 people in really sanitary conditions. Government has also assisted by the removal of the railway workshops outside the city to Ratmalana.

Kandy, faced with a similar but much smaller problem, has acted on similar lines.

The rural areas do not present such difficulties.

The most successful effort in housing is that on estates where, since 1920, new dwellings on approved plans have been constructed to house almost the whole Indian labour force of about 700,000 people.

207,818 rooms and 68,819 latrines have been constructed at the cost to estates of over 800 lacs of rupees. In addition 157,388 rooms are provided with a pipe-borne water supply in close vicinity.

Only a series of prosperous years could have permitted this work to have been completed so rapidly.

Housing still remains inadequate in the City of Colombo and in some outstation towns.

Rents, for those drawing Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 a month, may be Rs. 5 to 10 per mensem. Till the shortage of housing is met, any general improvement in pay is likely to be dissipated in enhanced rents.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening is of some importance.

Animal husbandry is still a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch is now becoming awakened, and the beginnings of stock raising and dairy industries are being laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1931:—

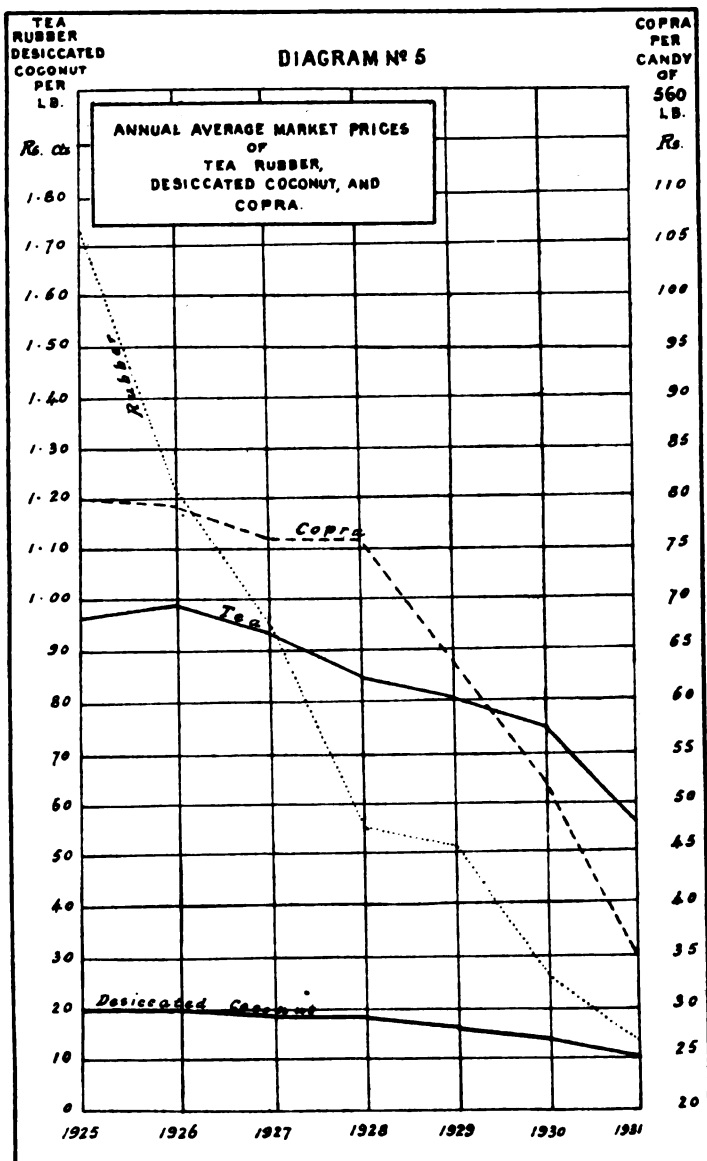
Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,000,000	Palmyra	50,000
Rice	1,000,000	Cacao	34,000
Rubber	500,000	Citronella	33,000
Tea	400,000	Cinnamon	26,000
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000	Tobacco	14,000
Arecanuts	69,000	Cardamoms	6,000

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1931.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.	Total value of Class. Rs.
Black tea	242.5 mill. lb.	137.8 mill.	
Green tea	1.5 mill. lb.	.9 mill.	
Tea seed	455 cwt.	.1 mill.	
			138.8 mill.
Coconuts, fresh	21.1 mill. nuts	.8 mill.	
Copra	1.9 mill. cwt.	12.8 mill.	
Coconut oil	1.0 mill. cwt.	12.1 mill.	
Coir yarn .. ..	.1 mill. cwt.	.8 mill.	
Desiccated coconut .. ..	.7 mill. cwt.	6.8 mill.	
Poonac .. ..	.4 mill. cwt.	1.3 mill.	
Bristle fibre .. ..	.2 mill. cwt.	1.1 mill.	
Mattress fibre .. ..	.3 mill. cwt.	.4 mill.	
Coir rope, &c.	9,000 cwt.	.1 mill.	
			36.2 mill.
Rubber	145.3 mill. lb.		21.0 mill.
Cacao	77,000 cwt.		2.3 mill.
Arecanuts	102,000 cwt.		1.7 mill.
Cardamoms	2,700 cwt.		.4 mill.
Pepper and other spices	4,000 cwt.		.1 mill.
Cinnamon (quills and chips)	42,000 cwt.	1.2 mill.	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf)	2.2 mill. oz.	.8 mill.	
			2.0 mill.
Tobacco (manufactured and cigars)	3.0 mill. lb.		1.4 mill.
Citronella oil	1.2 mill. lb.		1.0 mill.
Papain	77,000 lb.		.4 mill.
Kapok	6,700 cwt.		.2 mill.
Gingelly seed	28,000 cwt.		.1 mill.

Total .. 205.6 mill.



Registrar General's Department

S.O. N. N. 21

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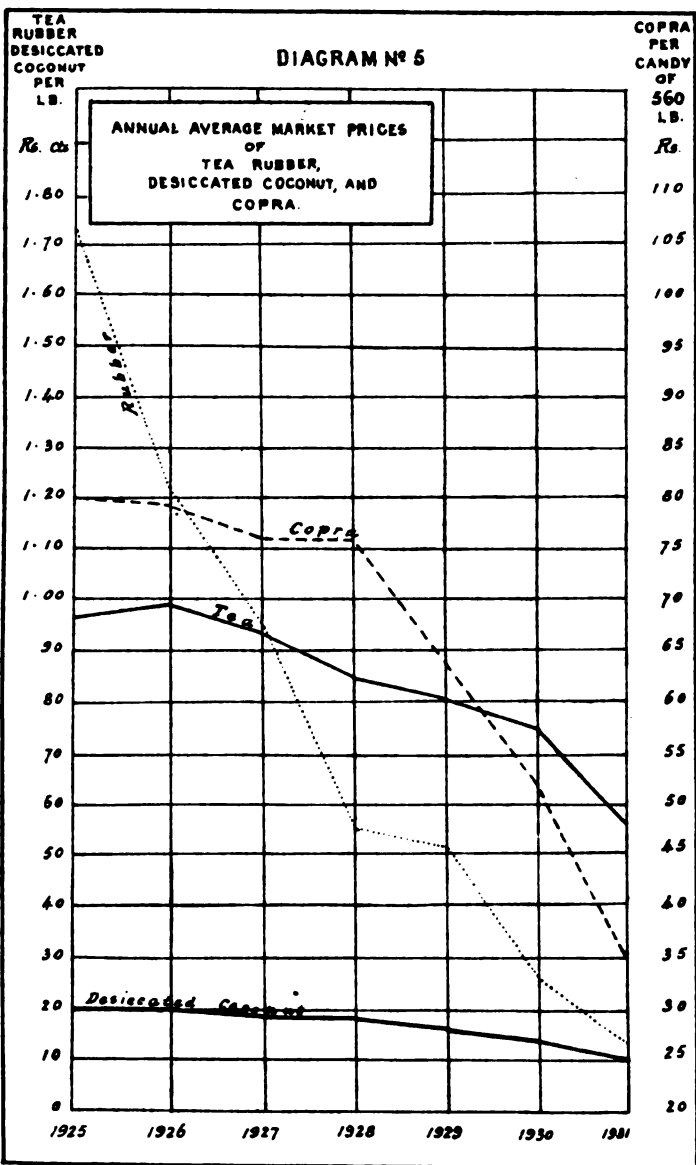
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Total .. 205.6 mill.



Registrar General's Department

S.S.O. P. S. 33

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 400,000 acres are planted in tea consisting of about 1,230 estates. Cultivation lies mainly in the mid-and-hill-country at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 6,000 feet. It is also grown at lower elevations down almost to sea level but the variety grown is different from that of the higher elevations and yields a product of less superior quality.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots of *Camellia Thea* which undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful “flushes,” or young, tender shoots on the tops of the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 60 to 200 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of tea estate labour consists of Tamils from India. The average labour force is generally calculated, for tea, at the rate of about one labourer per acre.

Methods of Cultivation and Manuring.—Cultivation methods have greatly improved in recent years, and much greater attention is now given to systematic cultivation and to the application of manures. Prunings are buried with applications of basic slag and potash, while general mixtures are applied while the bushes are in growth.

Yields and Prices.—Yields vary greatly with soil, jāt (variety), elevation, cultivation, manuring, &c., and the annual figures may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre, 600 to 700 lb. being considered a good all-round yield.

Since the early months of the year 1931 the tendency of the market has been downwards except during the periods of good quality. The average price of all teas sold in local auction was 18 cents below that of the previous year. High grown teas have suffered the least as may be seen from the following figures:—

Year.		High Grown. Cents.		Medium Grown. Cents.		Low Grown. Cents.
1930	::	96	::	69	::	60
1931	::	83	::	50	::	43

Quality throughout the year was satisfactory and a noticeable improvement was evident in the manufacture of teas from the low-country.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1922, 85 cents per lb.; 1923, Re. 1.02; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents; 1930, 75 cents; 1931, 57 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Machinery.—The chief machinery in a tea factory is the rolling machinery, the roll-breaker, and the drier. These are generally driven by overhead belting from a shaft driven by the power unit. This unit may be water-driven, as in the case of Pelton wheels or turbines, or it may consist of an oil, suction-gas or steam engine. Various driers are in use. The power required for a factory with an output of 400,000 lb. made tea per annum is about 50 h.p. For crops over 200,000 lb. the power required can be calculated at 10 to 12 h.p. per 100,000 lb.

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The estimated acreage under rubber in the Island is 500,000 acres. The rubber tree flourishes at lower elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

* According to local weekly sale averages.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the end of the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected, removed to the factory, treated with acetic acid to cause coagulation, dried, and créped by machinery, or coagulated in sheets and smoked. It will be noted that tea is exported in a form ready for consumption, while the rubber exported has to be made into finished goods before being put on the market.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as "stumps". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manures, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are still in vogue, but the single cut (half-circumference) is now becoming universal. The frequency of tapping is also varied as experience has been gained. Daily tapping was formerly most common, but alternate-day tapping is now generally popular, while tapping every third day is adopted upon some estates. Better bark-renewal results if the interval between tappings is extended, but some loss of bark occurs in three-day tapping. Tapping generally commences when the trees are six to seven years of age, and upon trees whose girth at 3 feet above the ground has reached approximately 24 inches.

Manufacture.—The manufacture of rubber into the form in which it is put on the wholesale market is done in factories on the estates. A considerable quantity and variety of machinery is used. The manufacture is standardized, and the difference between the prices of the various grades is generally not very large.

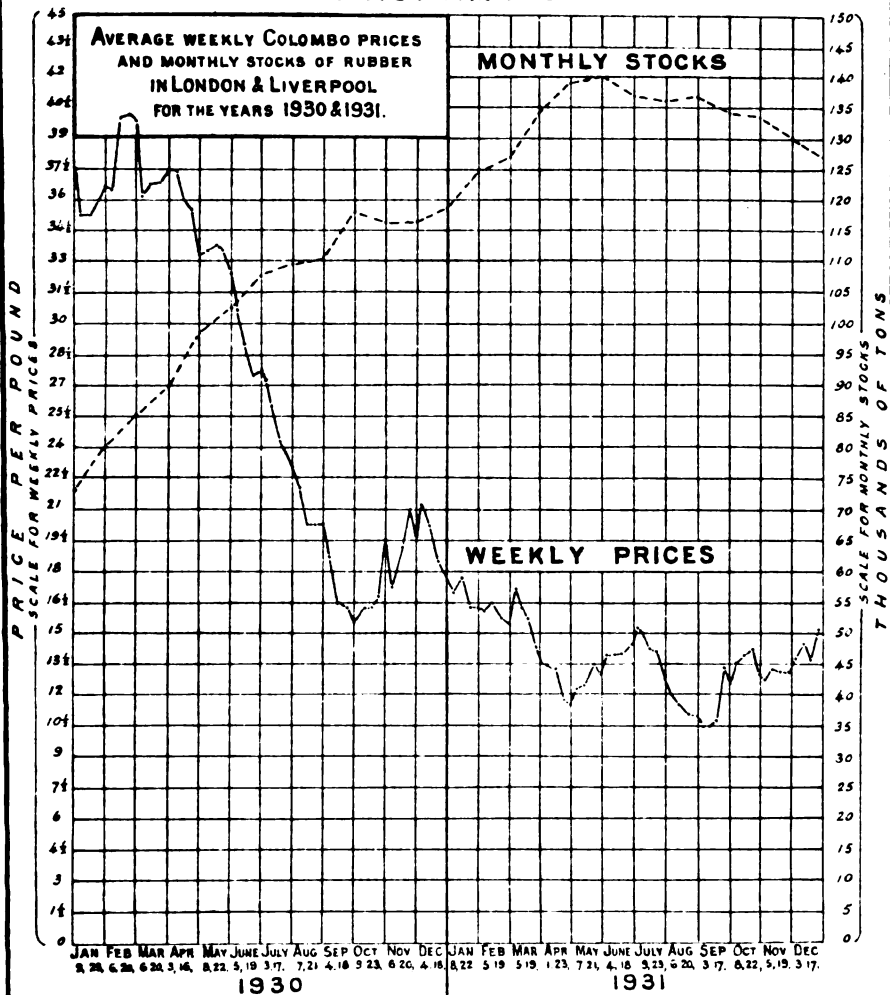
Yield, Prices, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

During the year under review the rubber industry has felt still more acutely the effects of considerable over-production coincident with the world-wide depression in trade. Prices opened in January at 18 cents and gradually declined to 13-14 cents by the middle of April, and then to 11-11½ cents. The market was somewhat erratic during May owing to the rumours of the probable abolition of export duty. On official notifications made on May 28 that the duty would be removed, the market advanced to around 14 cents per lb. A much better demand during June raised prices to 15-15½ cents, but the advance was not maintained, and with poor consumption and large shipment figures prices gradually fell away again till the very low level of 10½-10½ cents was touched during September.

The suspension of the gold standard by Great Britain then affected the market and prices rose to over 14 cents during October. The advance in price was too rapid and a slight decline to around 13 cents followed. Standard crépe was now selling at a distinct premium—sometimes over 1 cent a lb. In December restriction rumours brought a more speculative element into the market and prices touched 18 cents for crépe and 17 cents for smoked sheet. Demand, however, was not general at these levels and with slight fluctuations the market closed on December 23 at 16 cents for crépe and 14½ cents for sheet.

While partial restriction has not been adopted to any extent, a considerable acreage has gone out of production.

DIAGRAM N°6.



he annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1922, cents per lb.; 1923, 88 cents; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 7. 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents; 1930, 27 cents; 1931, 14 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rates of Freight.—The rates to the United Kingdom and Continent were reduced on May 16, 1931, from 57s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. and these rates were subject to a 10 per cent. increase as from November 1, and the United States of America by 15 per cent. as from November 7.

Labour.—The labour engaged is generally immigrant Indian Tamil, but, in some cases, Sinhalese work as tappers, &c. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Budding of Rubber.

Much attention has been given since 1929 to the budding of rubber. Large imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and many estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter. The work will eventually be extended to include seed-selection in specially isolated gardens.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists on rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available for future plantings.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that a little over 1,000,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very close and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manures, such as *Crotalaria*; cattle manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 an acre. This may be taken to spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the out-districts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force of Tamils is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, and on some estates the

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales.

labour force consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates is paid at about the same rates as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost 50 cents per 1,000 nuts.

The Nut.

The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on the average is about 40 nuts per annum. Without cultivation the yield is probably about 30 nuts per palm, with cultivation up to and over 100 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 100, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years after intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1918 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920. The market in 1931 moved from Rs. 40 to Rs. 47 down to Rs. 25 and closed at Rs. 40 per 1,000.

Copra.

The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely-used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 370,637 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,353,020 were exported in 1931.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra since 1918 is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market in 1931 has been a declining one with fluctuations from time to time. Opening at the beginning of the year at about Rs. 40 per candy the price fell away to as low as Rs. 27 in September. With Great Britain going off the gold standard the local market firmed up and a gradual rise took place and prices at the end of the year went as high as Rs. 42 per candy.

The annual average market prices* from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 78.52 per candy (560 lb.); 1923, Rs. 87.61; 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47; 1930, Rs. 52.30; 1931, Rs. 35.06 (see Diagram No. 5).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber.

Coconut Oil.

Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock-power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The market for coconut oil in 1931 has closely followed that of copra. Opening in January at about Rs. 282.50 per ton the prices showed minor fluctuations, in the case of copra, and reached the low figure of Rs. 205. The market firmed up later in the year and the closing price for the year was Rs. 300.

The annual average market prices from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 538.13 per ton f.o.b.; 1923, Rs. 584.05; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33; 1930, Rs. 351.63; 1931, Rs. 253.52.

Desiccated Coconut.

Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The opening price at the beginning of 1931 was about 9½ cents per lb. The market showed minor fluctuation before the price gradually declined to as low as 6½ cents. In common with most other commodities, the market firmed up towards the end of the year and finally closed at about 12 cents per lb.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1922, 22 cents per lb.; 1923, 24 cents; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents; 1930, 13 cents; 1931, 10 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under "Excise," page 27.

Coir, &c.

An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The market for bristle fibre in 1931 moved from Rs. 6.50 per cwt. down to Rs. 5.50 and closed at Rs. 7.75. The market for mattress fibre moved from Re. 1.25 per cwt. down to Re. 1 and finally closed at Re. 1.70. The prices for coir yarn opened at Rs. 7.50 per cwt. and declined gradually to Rs. 5 by the end of June. After a slight recovery in September the prices remained firm and closed at Rs. 5.50.

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1922, Rs. 13.39 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 14.46; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; 1930, Rs. 8.23; 1931, Rs. 6.65; for mattress fibre*:—1922, Re. 1.65 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 2.38; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2.38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; 1930, Re. 1.40; 1931, Re. 1.41; for coir yarn*: 1922, Rs. 12.68 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 18.63; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34; 1930, Rs. 12.73; 1931, Rs. 10.20.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for two acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The "Spring" crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or "Autumn" crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of $8\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening. The average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbacue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbacues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a

After part of the crop of Ceylon is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of good cloth covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Prices.—The prices ruling throughout 1931 for cacao were low and ranged from about Rs. 25 to Rs. 35 per cwt.

The annual average market prices* from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 37.77 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 35.71; 1924, Rs. 33.30; 1925, Rs. 33.17; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46; 1930, Rs. 37.51; 1931, Rs. 29.71.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon which was once the main export still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Early plantation was mainly confined to the Western Province of which Negombo was the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scrapping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The market for cinnamon quills has again been a declining one. The prices for No. 2 Hamburg at the beginning of the year opened at about 30 cents per lb. and fell away to as low as 20 cents. The closing price at the end of the year was in the neighbourhood of 24 cents. The prices of cinnamon chips also showed a decline, with slight fluctuations, in 1931. The lowest price recorded was about Rs. 25 per candy, but the closing price of the year, however, was Rs. 40 to Rs. 50.

The annual average market prices* of quills from 1922 were:—1922, 53 cents per lb.; 1923, 54 cents; 1924, 70 cents; 1925, 88 cents; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; 1930, 59 cents; 1931, 37 cents; of chips: 1922, Rs. 55.61 per candy; 1923, Rs. 53.76; 1924, Rs. 67.95; 1925, Rs. 84.54; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86; 1930, Rs. 56.41; 1931, Rs. 38.92. An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills. The cost of production of quills is about 30 cents per lb.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—In January, 1931, the market opened weak but remained fairly steady for the first three months at around 80 cents per lb. Prices declined slightly in May and in June fell to 67-70 cents. In July and August the prices stood at about 70-72 cents and in September were rather weaker at 70 cents. The market improved steadily from October touching 94-96 cents in November and Re. 1.01 to Re. 1.02 in December, but later declined, and the year closed with a normal price of 94 cents.

The annual average market prices from 1922 were:—1922, Re. 1.30 per lb.; 1923, Rs. 2.09; 1924, Rs. 2.03; 1925, Re. 1.37; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06; 1930, Re. 1.12; 1931, 80 cents.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage for the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extent.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Very satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming "caked" and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to "quail" for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling

market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the "Jaffna cheroot". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after.

Over 98 per cent. of the unmanufactured leaf goes to British India and about 92 per cent. of the manufactured tobacco is sent to the Maldives Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1s. 6d. and 1s. 8d. per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England, and the cultivation of this type is showing a gradual extension around the Tinnevely experiment station in the Jaffna Peninsula. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	4,701	1927	18,328	1930	18,552
1925	15,057	1928	30,688	1931	9,212
1926	18,535	1929	25,312		

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools of clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

The value of the exports of cardamoms is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Prices for the year 1931 have been irregular and an unusual feature of the market was that at one time the price for "greens" exceeded that for "bleached". The highest figure recorded for "bleached" during the year was Rs. 2.15 per lb. and the lowest Re. 1.15. "Greens" went down to 55 cents but towards the close of the year reached Re. 1.30.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1922, Re. 1.54 per lb.; 1923, Rs. 2.41; 1924, Rs. 2.93; 1925, Rs. 3.42; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.50; 1929, Rs. 2.22; 1930, Re. 1.69; 1931, Re. 1.67.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British India and the Maldivé Islands, about 88 per cent. going to the former and about 6 per cent. to the latter.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must re-sow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs ("tanks"). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddunization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be "asweddunized", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this subsection is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other Provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acid is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between the Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, and greater attention given to manuring and seed selection. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years, and a number of pure-line strains have been evolved and are now being tested on a field scale and distributed to cultivators. Similarly, frequent demonstrations have been given in manuring and the organization of the supply of manures is now being investigated.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The “age” of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors, such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different Provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 1,000,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Hill Paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in “chenas” on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in “chenas”—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal

grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions. In 1931, however, the value of the imports dropped to Rs. 1½ million and for the first time an export trade in this crop took place. Practically the entire crop of the Anuradhapura District, amounting to nearly 28,000 cwt. and valued at Rs. 92,000, was sent to South India.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has occurred and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while "jaggery" is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success has been achieved in the efforts made during the past few years to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province, where over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930. The crop is also being popularized in parts of the Mannar, Ratnapura, Kandy, and Matale Districts. All produce raised by peasants is purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Colombo, which has undertaken to take all the crop. The general depression in prices, however, has proved a set-back to cultivation, and has resulted in a diminution of the acreage. The approximate area cultivated for the 1931-32 crop is about 1,500 acres.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows:—

Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 .. 8,636 ..	562,472	1930 .. 3,511 ..	189,289	1931 .. 6,737 ..	241,673

Kitul.—The fibre of the *Borassus* palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid and low-country. The extent of the trade in this product may be seen from the following figures:—

Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 .. 1,500 ..	90,090	1930 .. 1,122 ..	64,793	1931 .. 1,654 ..	86,425

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit, or which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch crop during the waiting period for return from tea or rubber. But many small pure plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain:—

	Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	12,463 ..	642,318	1930 ..	79,338 ..	458,872	1931 ..	76,947 ..	411,420

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows:—

	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	3,078 ..	406,288	1930 ..	2,766 ..	174,144	1931 ..	3,151 ..	119,700

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants, the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts:—Kandy and Matale in the Central Province; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa; Galle in the Southern Province; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

EXCISE.

TODDY AND ARRACK.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. The nuts are formed at the top of the tree, on the stalks enclosed in spathes, and for the formation of these nuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks. If the spathe is "tapped" before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 65 cents to Re. 1.30 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1929-30 was 4,143,374 gallons, compared with 3,468,595 gallons in 1930-31, the average consumption per head of population being .78 and .68 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in

the two financial years was Rs. 2,267,075 in 1930-31 and Rs. 2,233,822 in 1929-30, the revenue per head being 42 and 49 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 65 and 53 cents respectively. In 1931-32 the rents of 146 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 1,579,952, a decrease of over one and a half lakhs of rupees from the rent sale figures of the 139 taverns for the financial year 1930-31.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the toddy retail trade, and of the distilling and sale of arrack, is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety: it is now concentrated in seven large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply their arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, i.e., the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.50 to Re. 1.75 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Rs. 2.40 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack:—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 10 per gallon and on bottles at Rs. 7 per gallon;
 Cost price, Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
 Cost price, Rs. 3.50 per gallon at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
 Extra charges per gallon on bottled arrack, Rs. 2 for white bottles and Re. 1.50 for black 2-pint bottles.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

Gallons (proof).			Gallons (proof).		
1929	..	497,451	1931	..	285,138
1930	..	387,427			

The corresponding outturn for the three years was 11.92, 12.07, and 12.08 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1931 was 422,595 gallons, a decrease of 98,787 gallons on the 1930 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1930-31 was 151 and in 1929-30 was 136. The estimated net revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 4,565,484 in 1930-31 and Rs. 6,642,434 in 1929-30, which is equivalent to Re. 0.86 and Re. 1.47 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .08 gallon in 1930-31 and .12 gallon in 1929-30. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 10.80 in 1930-31 and Rs. 12.15 in 1929-30. The net revenue shows a decrease, consequent on the falling consumption of 98,787 gallons, though the net revenue per gallon consumed shows an increase of Re. 1.35.

VINEGAR MANUFACTURE.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores, and the results of the experiment have been satisfactory.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total liquor revenue for the financial year 1929-30 and 1930-31 was as follows:—

<i>Excise Revenue.</i>				1929-30.	1930-31.
				Rs.	Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	..	..	..	8,363,736	6,048,792
Toddy	..	..	..	2,233,822	2,267,075
Licensing fees	..	..	..	184,183	166,476
Composition fees	..	..	..	18,114	9,941
Total Excise revenue	..	..	..	10,799,855	8,492,284
<i>Other Revenue.</i>					
Customs (import duties)	..	..	..	4,294,900	3,522,310
Police Court fines in Excise cases	..	..	..	276,260	185,819
Sale of confiscated articles	..	..	..	245	119
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	..	..	..	15,371,260	12,200,532

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,390,633 in 1930-31 being 16.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 11.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

EXCISE OFFENCES.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1929, 1930 and 1931:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1929	98	606	4,510	635	145	217	6,211
1930	83	517	5,439	780	88	220	7,127
1931	50	430	5,616	730	—	1,729	8,555

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under cultivation and sale of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads (a) sea fisheries, (b) chank fisheries, (c) pearl fisheries, and (d) fresh water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that no surplus is available for the fish curers, with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1931 to 548,350 cwt. valued at Rs. 12,465,706,

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total liquor revenue for the financial year 1929-30 and 1930-31 was as follows:—

<i>Excise Revenue.</i>				1929-30. Rs.	1930-31. Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	..	..	..	8,363,736	6,048,792
Toddy	..	..	..	2,233,822	2,267,075
Licensing fees	..	..	..	184,183	166,476
Composition fees	..	..	..	18,114	9,941
Total Excise revenue	..	..	..	10,799,855	8,492,284
<i>Other Revenue.</i>					
Customs (import duties)	..	..	..	4,294,900	3,522,310
Police Court fines in Excise cases	..	..	..	276,260	185,819
Sale of confiscated articles	..	..	..	245	119
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	..	..	..	15,371,260	12,200,532

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,390,633 in 1930-31 being 16.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 11.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

EXCISE OFFENCES.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1929, 1930 and 1931:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1929 ..	98 ..	606 ..	4,510 ..	635 ..	145 ..	217 ..	6,211
1930 ..	83 ..	517 ..	5,439 ..	780 ..	88 ..	220 ..	7,127
1931 ..	50 ..	430 ..	5,616 ..	730 ..	— ..	1,729 ..	8,555

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under cultivation and sale of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads (a) sea fisheries, (b) chank fisheries, (c) pearl fisheries, and (d) fresh water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that no surplus is available for the fish curers, with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1931 to 548,350 cwt. valued at Rs. 12,465,706.

The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and maldivian fish imported from Southern India and the Maldivian Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,565 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1931 to 391,115 cwt. valued at Rs. 11,403,516.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the objects of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. As a result of this survey, two extensive fishing banks were discovered which are practically virgin ground, i.e., the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C. (Fisheries), Vol. I., part II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. The survey of the Pedro bank has since been completed and a detailed report with charts of the area is now in preparation. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926-30. The survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended pending a recovery of the financial situation. These investigations led to the formation, in 1928, of a local trawling company which is now operating on both banks.

Future developments of the trawl fishing industry are limited to less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the available fishing grounds of Ceylon and can effect only the market for one class of fish, namely, demersal or bottom feeding fishes. They can take no part in the development of the pelagic (surface) and demersal fisheries of the local fishermen to which the whole of the waters of Ceylon are available.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664 valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667 was collected. In 1931, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,340,440 and the duty collected to Rs. 16,690.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line. Fisheries in this area were held in 1930 and 1931.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow water area known as the Ceylon Pearl banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the

gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large extension of oyster-bearing ground covering an area of about 30 square miles was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window pane oyster *Placum lacenta* which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery is now leased for a period of three years ending 1932. The lessee has so far held two fisheries, one in 1930 and the other in 1931, which together yielded 518,804 oysters from which 938 tola weight of pearls were obtained. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh Water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the many tanks, reservoirs, &c., which abound throughout the Island. In some cases a fishing licence is issued by a local authority (a village committee or Urban District Council) or the waters are leased. No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department has made a survey of the fresh water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B., Volumes XV. and XVI.)

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failures of harvest are met by the importation of salt of similar quality from India. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass in the Northern Province and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of the ten years 1921-30:—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1921-30.	1931. Cwt.	Producing Centre.	Average for 1921-30.	1931. Cwt.
Elephant Pass ..	143,636 ..	248,875	Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass)	42,688 ..	171,522
Palavi ..	30,712 ..	124,616	Trincomalee District	36,528 ..	66,344
Hambantota District	128,010 ..	72,620			
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi) ..	100,946 ..	212,398	Total ..	482,520	896,375

Stocks at the beginning of 1931 amounted to 697,023 cwt. and at the end of the year 981,495 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 1,998,970 and the net revenue Rs. 1,614,890.

Owing to the more or less stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGY.

Plumbago.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size

up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, feldspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c. are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Seventy mines were reported to be working at the end of 1931 employing about 1,939 men, but it is possible that the number actually at work was less.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago especially with regard to Ceylon as Ceylon flake was the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present price ruling there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madagascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work.

The average market prices for all grades for the last three years were as follows:—1929, Rs. 214.28 per ton; 1930, Rs. 203.50 per ton; 1931, Rs. 182.34 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of the Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum.

The value of the exports of plumbago in 1931 was Rs. 1,225,331.

Other Economic Minerals.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (carniolite, citrine quartz, amethyst), and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite, and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Mataira and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were

ained on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon, rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There has been a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons have been exported. The variety exported is phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granitic rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

CEYLON depends for its prosperity mainly upon agriculture and the development of its natural resources in this direction. There are few manufacturing industries, and those which exist are in their infancy, with the exceptions of the processes by which the three chief staple products—tea, the produce of the coconut palm, and rubber—are prepared for the market. The mineral resources of the Island, with the exception of plumbago, are not large, while the total absence of coal no doubt largely accounts for the lack of manufactures. Consequently, the trade of the Island mainly consists of the export of the staple agricultural products and the import of the manufactured articles and finished materials required by the population, in addition to those foodstuffs which are not grown locally in sufficient quantities for local requirements.

Trade and Shipping.—The world-wide trade depression is again reflected in the figures for the year under review, during which the value of the total trade (excluding the value of specie and of coal and liquid fuel supplied to ships) was Rs. 430,955,489, a drop of Rs. 170,000,000 as compared with 1930 and the lowest figure since 1918.

As regards exports, the quantities shipped were approximately the same as in 1930 with the exception of rubber which dropped to 81 per cent. of the 1930 figure. However, the value of the total exports went down by almost Rs. 88,000,000, of which Rs. 43,000,000 was in respect of tea, Rs. 27,000,000 in respect of rubber, and Rs. 10,000,000 in respect of coconut products, the total values of the exports of these commodities being Rs. 138,000,000, Rs. 20,000,000, and Rs. 36,000,000 respectively. The values of most exports dropped fairly steadily during the first part of the year and rose somewhat towards the end of the year, due no doubt to the fact that the United Kingdom went off the gold standard in September.

The value of the total imports dropped by almost Rs. 84,000,000. The following were among the most noticeable decreases:—

						Rs.
Rice	..	..	..	..	..	24,000,000
Sugar	..	..	..	..	..	5,000,000
Machinery	..	..	..	..	..	3,000,000
Cotton piece goods	..	..	..	..	..	2,750,000

In spite of the large drop in the values, the quantities of rice and sugar imported were approximately the same as in previous years; while the imports of cotton piece goods were actually greater than in 1930. Most of the other decreases in value of imports, however, are due mainly to decreased importations.

Fuller details and notes on the principal items of imports and exports will be found in the subsequent pages of this report.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Under the new Constitution the subjects of industry and commerce were allotted to the Hon. the Minister and the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

The policy of the Minister and Committee is to assist the development of commerce and industry in Ceylon by the collection of information regarding markets, prices, and general possibilities, by the examination of the problems of marketing locally and abroad, by giving such assistance as may be possible to new enterprises, and by such other methods as may be practicable.

A branch of the Registrar-General's Office is being organized for these purposes and it is hoped that it will be able to render material assistance to the commerce and industry of Ceylon.

As Imperial Trade Correspondent, the Principal Collector of Customs is under the Senior Trade Commissioner in India and Ceylon.

During the year, all possible assistance was rendered in furtherance of British and Ceylon trade. In addition to numerous inquiries from local merchants, 84 trade inquiries from abroad were dealt with during the year as compared with 72 in 1930. The assistance rendered usually takes the form of (a) introducing local exporters to outside markets, (b) finding suitable agents for British business houses, or (c) inquiring into complaints regarding their local representatives from British firms.

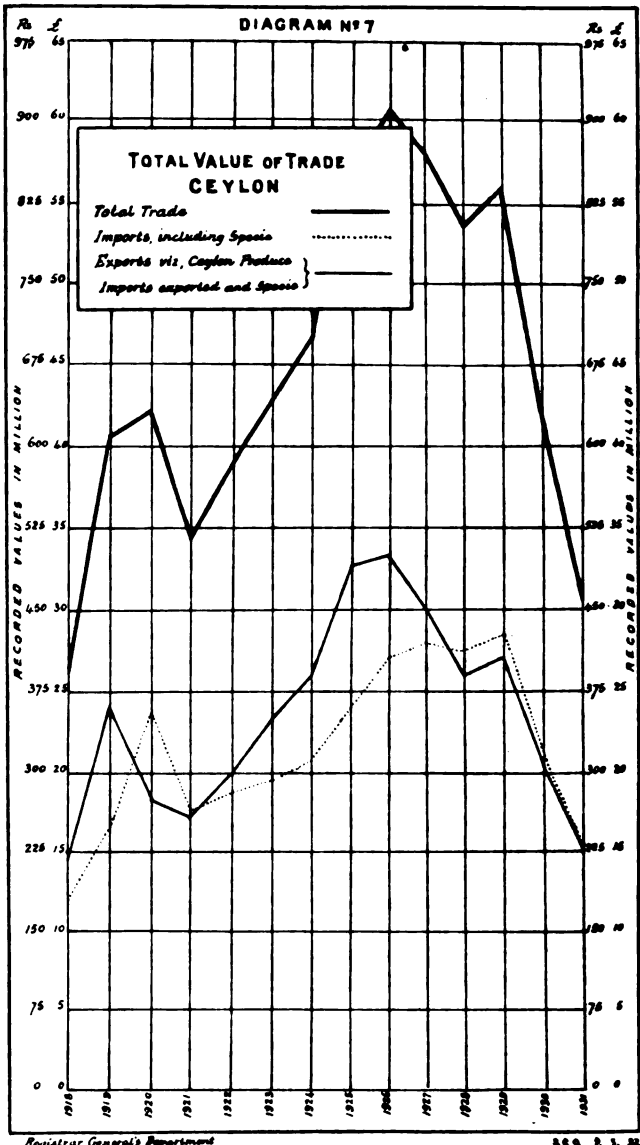
Travelling representatives of British houses, many of whom call on the Principal Collector with introductions from the Board of Trade, are given all available information.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE.

The total trade of the Island continues to be divided into three almost equal shares; one being taken by the United Kingdom, one by British Possessions, and the third by foreign countries.

As compared with 1930, the value of the imports from foreign countries increased at the expense of the United Kingdom, while the value of the exports to the United Kingdom increased at the expense of foreign countries.

As regards the principal countries from which Ceylon imports are obtained, until 1929 the United Kingdom invariably headed the list, but in 1930 British India overtook the United Kingdom, the latter coming second. In 1931, the United Kingdom dropped still further taking the third place on the list, the first two being occupied by British India and Burma.



Imports from Japan which come fourth on the list have increased from 2.66 in 1929 to 4.9 in 1931. Persia takes a fairly high place on the list and is above Australia.

The following are the comparative percentages for the last four years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade with the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber, and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores:—

	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.	
Imports—								
From the United Kingdom	..	22.75	..	22.68	..	21	..	18.76
From British Possessions	..	47.82	..	47.46	..	48.5	..	48.59
From Foreign countries	..	29.43	..	29.86	..	30.5	..	32.65
		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>
Exports—								
To the United Kingdom	..	39.5	..	41.41	..	45.61	..	48.41
To British Possessions	..	18.4	..	17.59	..	18.21	..	18.91
To Foreign countries	..	42.1	..	41	..	36.18	..	32.68
		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>
Total Trade—								
From and to the United Kingdom	..	30.81	..	31.96	..	33.32	..	33.39
From and to British Possessions	..	33.77	..	32.65	..	33.34	..	33.94
From and to Foreign countries	..	35.42	..	35.39	..	33.34	..	32.67
		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>

NOTES ON SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Rice (Grain without Husk).—The imports were considerably less in 1931 than in 1930, mainly because of smaller imports from British India. The quantity imported from Siam increased still further. Imports from Siam are almost entirely broken rice which is mainly used for making flour. Imports from Burma and British India, on the other hand, are mostly boiled rice which is the staple diet of the inhabitants of the Island.

The average value dropped again being at its lowest in April. It showed a slight increase towards the end of the year.

The imports in 1930 and 1931 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following tables—

Country of Production.	1930.		1931.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Burma	6,387,723	49,724,261	6,551,566	37,516,368
British India	2,313,227	21,095,463	1,421,249	9,602,968
Cochin China	270,202	2,396,457	276,987	1,563,691
Siam	227,223	1,832,904	454,868	2,601,767
Straits Settlement	44,653	368,557	27,795	157,124
India (excluding British)	15,592	133,796	56	363
Other countries	1,233	13,264	27	437
Total	9,259,873	75,564,702	8,732,548	51,442,718

Other Grains.—The chief grains imported under this head are paddy (grain with husk), peas, and gram.

Paddy comes mainly from Burma, peas from British India and China, and gram from British India and Burma.

The quantities of paddy and peas imported in 1931 showed slight decreases as compared with 1930.

Imports in 1929, 1930, and 1931 are shown below:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Paddy	710,882	370,881	352,048
Peas	378,747	433,425	389,408
Gram	97,702	84,561	84,995

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grains imported during the last ten years:—

	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.		Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1922 ..	7,209,157	956,550	1927 ..	9,087,264	1,013,840
1923 ..	7,423,833	1,134,443	1928 ..	9,244,691	1,310,637
1924 ..	7,519,186	965,569	1929 ..	9,380,556	1,242,349
1925 ..	8,321,381	1,014,297	1930 ..	9,259,873	950,443
1926 ..	8,794,947	1,125,130	1931 ..	8,732,548	876,810

Wheat Products, Flour and Meal.—There was a considerable drop in the quantity imported as compared with 1930, and a very large decline in value.

Over 96 per cent. of the imports came from Australia as compared with 94 per cent. in the previous year.

The following table shows the imports of flour in 1929, 1930, and 1931:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	396,640	5,523,144
1930 ..	400,867	4,286,568
1931 ..	374,579	2,241,031

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The chief imports are gingelly poonac and bran which come almost entirely from India. The imports of the former declined from 315,000 cwt. in 1930 to 265,000 cwt. in 1931, while those of the latter increased from 145,000 cwt. to 162,000 cwt.

Spirits, Brandy, Whisky, Gin.—The imports of whisky showed a slight increase over the 1930 figure. The further decrease in the consumption of brandy and gin is mainly due to the depressed state of the local industries and especially of the rubber industry.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

Proof Gallons.					
	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Brandy ..	122,905	104,916	135,794	59,291	47,588
Gin ..	151,987	106,415	94,892	55,612	42,877
Whisky ..	58,189	81,767	71,491	43,167	43,717
	333,074	293,098	302,177	158,070	136,182

Sugar.—The imports were slightly less than in 1930, and the c.i.f. price dropped still further from 8.9 cents per lb. in 1930 to less than 5 cents per lb. in 1931.

Out of the total imports shown in the table below, 1,328,151 cwt. came from Java. There was also one large shipment of 40,000 cwt. from European Russia. As no sugar has previously been imported from that country, it may be presumed that the consignment in question is a result of the Five Year's Plan.

Rumours of increased duty led to large imports of sugar in November. In that month 310,000 cwt. were imported, as compared with the monthly average for the year of rather less than 120,000 cwt.

The quantities imported in recent years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.
1918 ..	355,546	1923 ..	496,787	1928 ..	1,193,588
1919 ..	381,041	1924 ..	635,448	1929 ..	1,250,058
1920 ..	269,643	1925 ..	794,267	1930 ..	1,430,396
1921 ..	391,639	1926 ..	952,263	1931 ..	1,424,111
1922 ..	524,674	1927 ..	1,058,137		

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes, &c.—The importations of unmanufactured American tobacco continued to increase rapidly. This tobacco is manufactured locally into a cigarette which by reason of its price (2 cents), competes successfully with beedies imported from India and cheroots made in Jaffna from Ceylon grown tobacco. Importations of cigarettes which come almost entirely from the United Kingdom, dropped to 42 per cent. of the 1930 figure and to 23 per cent.

of that for 1929. The decreased imports of beedies, which all come from India, may be attributed to the large-scale smuggling to which reference is made in the section on the work of the Preventive Service.

The quantities of the various classes of tobacco cleared for home consumption during the past ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Unmanufactured Tobacco lb.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Other Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Beedies. lb.	Total. lb.
1922	4,045	8,993	330,071	21,429	27,553	392,451
1923	3,582	7,387	327,482	21,354	32,454	392,259
1924	2,356	7,272	403,370	20,379	37,530	470,907
1925	2,229	7,075	447,908	19,364	43,726	520,392
1926	2,971	7,474	511,011	21,082	58,467	601,005
1927	13,992	7,106	568,109	26,078	75,687	690,972
1928	115,901	6,817	556,314	13,952	76,895	769,879
1929	217,495	5,853	584,227	14,021	70,571	892,167
1930	555,321	4,276	316,749	12,326	57,653	946,325
1931	872,141	3,144	133,414	10,134	44,428	1,063,261

The history of the duties on these commodities is as follows:—

	September, 1922.	July, 1926.	February, 1930.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Tobacco unmanufactured per lb.	1 75	1 75	2 0
Cigars per lb.	4 0	4 50	4 75
Cigarettes and beedies per lb.	5 0	6 0	6 30
Tobacco manufactured per lb.	4 0	4 50	4 75

Coal.—The quantity imported decreased still further from 567,011 tons in 1930 to 494,268 tons in the year under review.

Of the above quantity, British India supplied 298,449 tons, and British South Africa 133,296 tons, as compared with 295,386 tons and 167,830 tons respectively in 1930. Imports from the United Kingdom decreased from 103,113 tons in 1930 to 41,998 tons in 1931.

Liquid Fuel.—The imports were considerably less than in 1930. Of the total figure of 52,000,000 gallons, 46,000,000 gallons were reshipped as bunkers, so that 6,000,000 gallons were consumed locally as compared with 12,000,000 gallons in 1930.

Five-sixths of the supplies came from Persia and most of the balance from non-British North Borneo.

The total imports of liquid fuel during the last three years were—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1929	53,364,579	12,737,114
1930	57,458,471	12,005,543
1931	52,006,070	10,401,212

Kerosene Oil.—Considerably less kerosene was cleared for home consumption in 1931 than in the previous year.

About two-thirds of the imports came from Sumatra and one-third from the United States of America.

The total imports of bulk and case kerosene oil were as follows:—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1929	8,628,277	7,647,135
1930	8,853,891	6,311,286
1931	7,919,771	5,477,109

Petrol.—Here again, the 1931 importations were much less than those of 1930.

The decreased consumption may be attributed partly to the general depression and partly to the lower petrol consumption of the “Baby” motor cars which have become so popular of recent years.

Four-fifths of the imports came from Sumatra and one-fifth from the United States of America.

The imports for the last eight years, including importations by Government, have been as follows:—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1924	3,749,236	1928	8,349,092
1925	4,085,370	1929	10,501,597
1926	6,308,256	1930	11,446,509
1927	6,946,194	1931	8,844,958

Manures.—The imports of manures continue to decrease. This is not surprising as the depression has forced the major industries (tea, coconut, and rubber) to make drastic reductions in their manuring programmes.

The following table shows the total imports of manure during the last three years :—

Year.				Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	..	..	..	2,614,696	15,168,863
1930	..	..	..	2,251,225	11,698,382
1931	..	..	..	1,751,573	7,797,524

The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported are shown in the following table :—

Kind.			Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	..	..	391,394	1,436,983
Bone meal (British India)	..	..	261,874	975,138
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	..	..	251,902	1,252,758
Ephos basic phosphate (Egypt)	..	..	96,976	282,588
Fish Guano (British South Africa, United States of America)	..	..	87,895	559,662
Superphosphate (Holland, Belgium)	..	..	85,340	297,616
Muriate of potash (Germany)	..	..	84,881	474,458
Safaja and Kossier phosphate (Egypt)	..	..	68,680	148,135
Fish manure (British India)	..	..	62,783	318,806
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	..	..	58,838	431,188
Blood meal (British India, United States of America)	..	..	46,880	449,418
Nitrate of soda (Chile)	..	..	31,978	213,204

Cement.—The quantity imported was 25 per cent. less than that imported in 1930.

Imports from the United Kingdom dropped from 766,000 cwt. to 510,000 cwt., and those from Germany from 293,000 cwt. to 92,000 cwt. The quantity imported from Japan on the other hand increased from 60,000 cwt. to 247,000 cwt.

In this connection, it may be interesting to examine the following table which shows the rapid increase in the imports of cement from Japan :—

1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.	1929. Cwt.	1930. Cwt.	1931. Cwt.
13	..	37	..	5,000	..
				20,000	..
				60,000	..
				247,000	

The following table shows the imports during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1927	..	1,364,018	..	2,799,035	
1928	..	1,595,506	..	3,193,648	
1929	..	1,608,844	..	3,215,561	
			1930	..	1,299,783
			1931	..	952,765
					2,601,144
					1,093,052

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—The quantity imported dropped still further during the year under review.

The decreases in the imports from the United Kingdom under the main heads are given below :—

		Cwt.		Cwt.
Iron and steel bars, &c.	..	..	..	..
Steel girders, &c.	..	..	..	..
Flat galvanized plates and sheets	..	..	..	..
Corrugated galvanized plates and sheets	..	..	..	..
Tubes, pipes, and fittings	..	..	..	..
		63,777	to	35,600
		34,772	to	21,800
		26,000	to	19,000
		93,905	to	51,000
		64,827	to	40,000

The imports of bars, &c., from Belgium dropped from 57,340 cwt. to 31,400 cwt., of girders from 26,000 cwt. to 10,000 cwt., while imports from the same country of plates and sheets, not galvanized, rose from 87,524 cwt. to 105,000 cwt. Luxemburg supplied 18,400 cwt. of iron and steel bars, &c., as compared with 30,149 cwt. in 1930; and 16,800 cwt. of steel girders, &c., came from France as compared with 13,000 cwt. in 1930.

The following table shows the total imports of metal and metalware, ferrous, during the past five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1927	..	1,399,714	..	15,467,704	
1928	..	1,278,670	..	13,538,206	
1929	..	1,467,846	..	14,925,804	
			1930	..	860,666
			1931	..	639,841
					8,715,402
					5,979,115

The percentage of the total value of ferrous metal and metalware supplied by the leading exporting countries during 1931 is as follows:—

United Kingdom ..	68.8	Luxemburg ..	1.6
Belgium ..	15.1	British India ..	.8
Germany ..	7.5		

Non-ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—Piglead and tea lead are the chief items included under this head. The quantities imported showed a considerable decrease as compared with 1930:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	152,938	5,599,486
1930 ..	140,862	4,294,075
1931 ..	109,379	2,976,445

The chief countries from which non-ferrous metal and manufactures were imported and the percentage of the total value of the supplies imported from each in 1929, 1930, and 1931 are shown below:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.		1929.	1930.	1931.
United Kingdom ..	46	46.8	42.6	Germany ..	7	5.1	6.2
British India ..	21	20.3	20.9	Straits Settlements ..	3.2	1.7	1.2
Burma ..	14.1	19.4	22.9				

Cotton, Raw and Manufactured.—The total value of imports during 1931 was Rs. 15,304,562, as compared with Rs. 18,532,673 in 1930, i.e., a decrease of 17 per cent.

(a) *Raw Cotton.*—16,351 cwt. valued at Rs. 505,250 were imported during the year as compared with 19,354 cwt. valued at Rs. 794,836 in 1930. Almost all the imports came from British India and the balance (1,200 cwt.) from British East Africa.

(b) *Cotton Waste.*—4,287 cwt. valued at Rs. 74,257 were imported as compared with 4,817 cwt. valued at Rs. 105,463 in 1930. Of the above amount, 2,385 cwt. came from British India and the balance 1,902 cwt. from the United Kingdom. The corresponding figures for 1930 were 2,306 cwt. and 2,511 cwt. respectively.

(c) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Bleached.*—The importations dropped from 46,040 lb. valued at Rs. 31,904 in 1930 to 31,897 lb. valued at Rs. 17,347 in 1931. Almost all the imports came from British India.

(d) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Dyed.*—The importations dropped from 126,534 lb. valued at Rs. 72,518 in 1930 to 87,647 lb. valued at Rs. 41,671 in the year under review. British India was the sole source of supply.

(e) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Gray.*—15,524 lb. valued at Rs. 8,641 were imported in 1931, as compared with 44,782 lb. valued at Rs. 34,214 in 1930. British India supplied 14,000 lb. and the balance came from the United Kingdom.

(f) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Other.*—The importations dropped from 10,560 lb. valued at Rs. 8,179 in 1930 to 1,120 lb. valued at Rs. 331 in 1931.

(g) *Cotton Piece Goods.*—The total value of cotton piece goods imported since 1928 is:—

Year.	Rs.	Year.	Rs.
1928 ..	21,061,219	1930 ..	16,089,234
1929 ..	23,440,709	1931 ..	13,295,769

The quantities imported were on the whole greater than in 1930, but their value showed a considerable decrease. Japan continued to improve her position, mainly at the expense of the United Kingdom, as will be seen from the following table:—

	Japan.			United Kingdom.		
	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.
Bleached goods ..	2	14	39	85	79	54
Dyed goods ..	3	7	15	16	17	14
Gray goods ..	—	12	18	89	75	69
Printed goods ..	31	35	43	63	62	55

The following table shows the quantities and values of each kind of piece goods and the principal sources of supply:—

Nature of Goods.	Year.	Quantity. Yards.	Value. Rs.	Country of Production.	Approximate Percentage of Total Value.
Bleached piece goods	1930	12,544,368..	4,142,182	United Kingdom ..	79
				Japan ..	14
				Holland ..	4
	1931	14,868,797..	3,373,409	United Kingdom ..	54
				Japan ..	39
				British India ..	2
Dyed piece goods	1930	21,803,323..	7,326,533	British India ..	59
				United Kingdom ..	17
				Holland ..	15
				Japan ..	7
	1931	20,723,793..	5,563,687	British India ..	58
Gray piece goods	1930	3,329,021..	839,817	Japan ..	15
				United Kingdom ..	14
				Holland ..	11
	1931	2,582,051..	527,599	United Kingdom ..	75
				Japan ..	12
				United States of America ..	11
Printed piece goods	1930	12,620,562..	3,605,962	United Kingdom ..	69
				Japan ..	18
				United States of America ..	12
	1931	16,541,447..	3,746,220	United Kingdom ..	62
				Japan ..	35
				Holland ..	2
Other piece goods	1930	345,289..	173,511	United Kingdom ..	55
				Japan ..	43
				British India ..	70
	1931	168,475..	84,295	United Kingdom ..	24
				United States of America ..	3
				British India ..	78
				United Kingdom ..	14
				Switzerland ..	5

(h) *Lace and Net*.—The imports increased from 2,697,218 yards in 1930 to 3,146,688 yards in the year under review. Most of this increase appears in the increased imports from the United Kingdom which rose from 1,447,453 yards in 1930 to 1,846,502 yards in 1931. Imports from France at 1,186,977 yards were almost the same as last year.

(i) *Embroidery*.—The imports decreased from 1,817,580 yards in 1930 to 1,648,295 yards in 1931. Of this quantity, Switzerland supplied 1,159,172 yards.

(j) *Thread*.—Imports rose from 163,319 lb. in 1930 to 177,662 lb. in the year under review. Their value, however, declined from Rs. 627,337 to Rs. 616,028.

The United Kingdom supplied 144,065 lb. valued at Rs. 564,715, as compared with 132,815 lb. valued at Rs. 578,487 in 1930.

Motor Vehicles.—The imports of cars and lorries continued to drop, those of the former being less than half, and those of the latter less than one-third of the 1930 figures.

As regards cars, imports from the United Kingdom fell from 540 to 373; from the United States of America from 333 to 85; from Italy from 71 to 40; from France from 64 to 40, and from Canada (Fords) from 168 to 14.

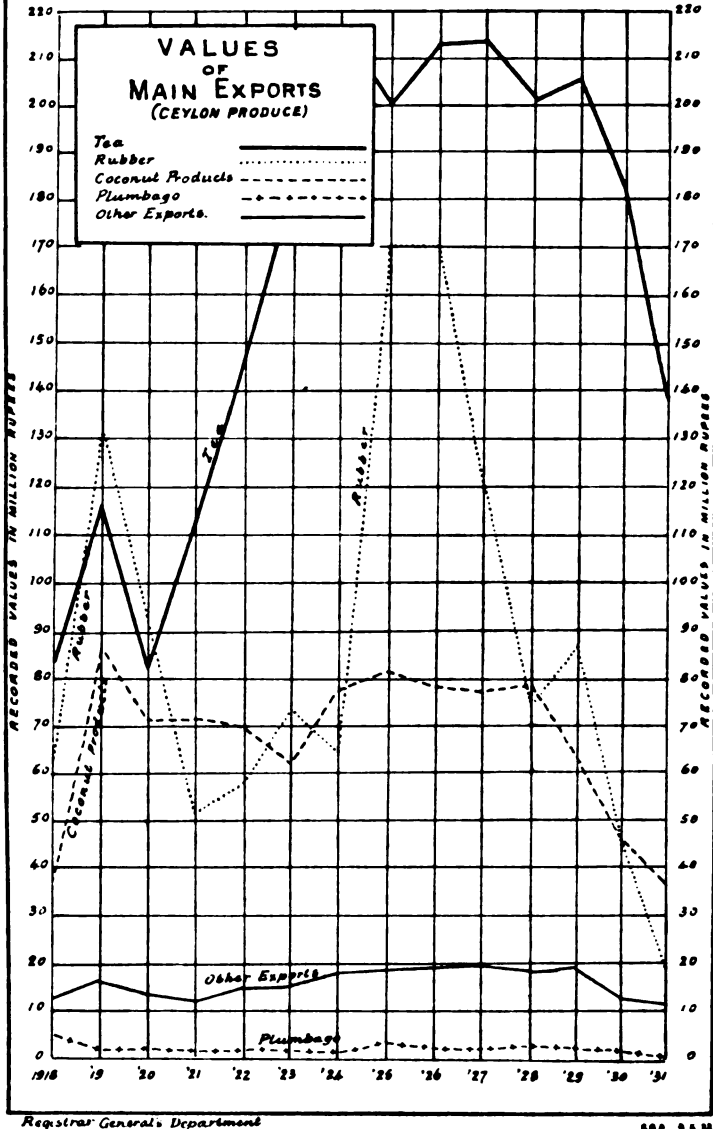
Lorries from the United States of America dropped from 330 to 95; from the United Kingdom from 43 to 31; and from Canada from 96 to 12.

The number of motor cycles imported dropped from 255 in 1930 to 35 (of which 29 came from the United Kingdom) in the year under review.

The following table shows the total number and value of cars and lorries imported during the last five years:—

Year.	Motor Cars.		Motor Lorries.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1927	2,481	6,021,954	761	1,918,770
1928	2,557	5,658,676	948	2,243,692
1929	2,574	5,575,688	1,422	3,056,846
1930	1,182	2,359,359	477	948,937
1931	553	996,174	144	299,630

DIAGRAM NO 8



Tea and Other Chests.—The imports were approximately the same as in 1930. The numbers imported from both the United Kingdom and Japan showed slight decreases, but a greater number was imported from Finland.

About 50 per cent. of the imports came from Japan, 22 per cent. from the United Kingdom and 19 per cent. from Finland.

The following table shows the imports, with values, for the last four years:—

Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	4,132,646	5,595,590	1930..	3,810,939	4,912,324
1929 ..	4,757,127	6,284,901	1931..	3,833,803	4,044,725

Cattle, Buffaloes, Sheep, and Goats.—The importation of cattle and buffaloes from Asiatic and African ports is prohibited at all ports, except Kayts, where cattle other than slaughter cattle may be imported on licence from the Government Veterinary Surgeon. The numbers imported continue therefore to be small. They all came from British India as did almost all the sheep and goats.

The following table gives the number and value of importations in 1930 and 1931:—

	1930.		1931.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	452	34,070	469	27,460
Buffaloes	320	35,760	167	7,800
Sheep	18,337	275,055	8,761	118,854
Goats	72,134	1,442,680	63,103	1,089,160

Horses.—Forty-seven horses (of which 32 came from the United Kingdom) were imported during the year as compared with 155 in 1930.

NOTES ON SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

Tea.—The quantity exported was slightly larger than in 1930, but the value showed a sharp drop.

The following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the last ten years in millions of pounds:—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1922	172	1927	227
1923	182	1928	237
1924	205	1929	251
1925	210	1930	243
1926	217	1931	244

The following table shows the exports in 1930 and 1931 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign countries and as ships' stores:—

	1930. lb.	1931. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	153,875,770	160,509,450	6,633,680	—
British Possessions ..	54,037,593	47,851,000	—	6,185,933
Foreign Countries ..	35,107,885	35,338,549	430,664	—
Ships' stores	86,226	70,311	—	15,915
	243,107,474	243,969,970	7,064,344	6,201,848

By far the largest exports of tea have always been to the United Kingdom and in 1931 the proportion was 2.7 per cent. higher than in the previous year, but Australia, which had invariably of recent years been second on the list, dropped to third, her purchases in 1931 being slightly more than 50 per cent. of those in 1930. This state of affairs may be attributed to the lower purchasing power of the Australian pound which has forced the majority of Australian tea consumers to drink Java teas which can apparently be bought on the Australian market at a lower price than the lowest priced Ceylon tea.

The chief buyers of Ceylon tea with the approximate percentages taken by each are as follows:—

	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.		1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	62	63	65.7	Canada	2.5	2.5	2.9
United States	..	..	..	Egypt	3	2.3	2.5
America	6	7	6.3	Iraq	1.5	1	..
Australia	8	9	4.6	Others	10	7.7	8.5
New Zealand	4	3.5	4.4				
British South Africa	3	4	4		100	100	100

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products during the last five years have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut. Oil. Cwt.
1927	872,833	1,982,154	673,153
1928	786,703	2,976,656	779,112
1929	690,469	2,042,483	878,523
1930	704,690	1,812,601	763,779
1931	669,327	1,877,303	962,774

The values of these exports were—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Rs.	Copra. Rs.	Coconut. Oil. Rs.
1927	20,481,761	31,844,823	16,567,551
1928	19,840,117	31,801,635	19,265,529
1929	11,875,780	26,315,987	18,024,359
1930	10,035,931	18,028,725	13,189,849
1931	6,832,308	12,715,253	12,130,476

(a) *Copra.*—The average price fell from Rs. 10.57 per cwt. in 1930 to Rs. 7.06 per cwt. in 1931. The exports were slightly higher than in 1930. Italy, Germany, Norway, Holland, Greece, Belgium, and Denmark were the principal purchasing countries. The first three were in the same order as in 1930, but Denmark, which was fourth in 1930, dropped to seventh in the year under review.

(b) *Coconut Oil.*—The average price again declined, being Rs. 12.78 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 17.67 per cwt. in 1930 and Rs. 20.68 in 1929. The exports were about 20 per cent. higher than in 1930. In the list of purchasing countries British India advanced from fifth in 1930 to first in 1931, buying 190,000 cwt., as compared with 73,000 cwt. in the previous year. It was closely followed by the United Kingdom with 181,000 cwt., as compared with 151,000 cwt. in 1930. The next in order were Egypt, Sweden, Italy, and British South Africa.

It is understood that the increase of over 150 per cent. in the exports to British India is mainly due to the fact that the boycott of foreign goods has caused consumers to use coconut oil instead of the various vegetable oils formerly imported from Europe.

(c) *Desiccated Coconuts.*—The average price for the year was Rs. 10.31 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 14.45 per cwt. in 1930 and Rs. 17.29 per cwt. in 1929. There was a considerable drop in the exports as compared with 1930. The United Kingdom was the largest purchaser taking 312,000 cwt., as compared with 291,000 cwt. in 1930. The next largest buyer was Germany with 111,000 cwt., as compared with 128,000 in the previous year.

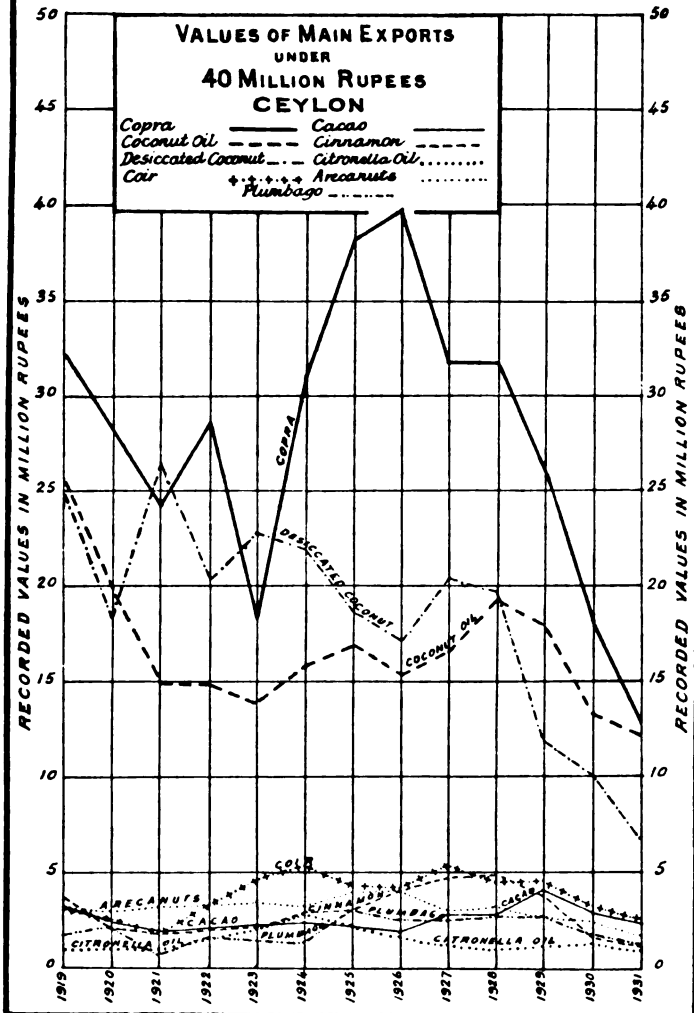
The restrictions imposed in Australia in 1930 in order to protect the newly-supported Papuan desiccated coconut industry have caused the exports from Ceylon to Australia to drop from 39,000 cwt. in 1929 to 3,000 cwt. in 1931.

(d) *Fresh Coconuts.*—Total exports for 1929, 1930, and 1931 are given below—

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1929	20,821,284	1,281,910
1930	20,750,337	972,115
1931	21,142,176	759,461

The quantity exported increased slightly, but the average price dropped from Rs. 49.06 per 1,000 in 1930 to Rs. 37.82 per 1,000 in the year under review. The United Kingdom, Germany, and Egypt in that order were the largest buyers with 33 per cent., 25 per cent., and 23 per cent., respectively. Holland and British India came next on the list.

DIAGRAM Nº9



Registrar General's Department

S. & O. P. 32

(e) *Coir Yarn*.—The quantity exported dropped from 104,377 cwt. in 1930 to 82,413 cwt. in 1931. The average price was Rs. 10.25 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 12.76 per cwt. in the previous year. The United Kingdom and Germany were again the chief buyers.

(f) *Coir Rope*.—Total exports showed a further decline from 11,880 cwt. valued at Rs. 259,458 in 1930 to 8,734 cwt. valued at Rs. 109,718 in 1931. The Straits Settlements was again the principal purchaser.

(g) *Bristle Fibre*.—The average price fell from Rs. 7.89 in 1930 to Rs. 6.34 in 1931. The quantity exported dropped from 171,217 cwt. in 1930 to 169,437 cwt. in the year under review. Japan, Belgium, France, and Germany were the chief purchasers.

(h) *Mattress Fibre*.—The average price in 1931 was Re. 1.27, as compared with Re. 1.23 in 1930. There was an increase in exports from 309,917 cwt. to 323,787 cwt. in 1931. The United Kingdom took 30 per cent. of the exports, and British South Africa 17 per cent.

(i) *Coconut Poonac*.—There was a large increase in exports of this commodity: from 278,878 cwt. in 1930 to 370,637 cwt. in 1931. Belgium took 60 per cent. of the total and Germany 33 per cent. The average value fell from Rs. 4.50 per cwt. to Rs. 3.62 per cwt.

Rubber.—The total quantity of rubber exported during the year was 145,351,627 lb., as compared with 182,306,460 lb. in 1930. Of this figure, over 7 million lb. was imported rubber (from British India and Malaya). As usual, the United States bought the largest quantity of our exports, the figure being 98 million lb., which is approximately 67 per cent. of the total. The United Kingdom took 23 million lb. or 16 per cent. of the total. In 1930, the United States of America took over 113 million lb. (60 per cent.), and the United Kingdom over 40 million lb. (22 per cent.). The average price on the local market was 14 cents per lb., as compared with 27 cents per lb. in the previous year. It dropped to 12½ cents in May and rose slightly when the export duty was withdrawn on May 28.

The decrease in the exportation of this commodity is due to the fact that many estates have ceased to tap their trees during the past year.

Cacao.—The exports remained steady. The Philippines bought 140,000 lb. more than in 1930, taking over one-third of the total. Mexico took one-sixth, approximately the same as in 1930; and the United Kingdom one-eighth, 440,000 lb. less than in 1930. The average value fell from 34 cents in 1930 to 26½ cents in 1931.

Total exports for 1929, 1930, 1931 were as follows:—

Year.				Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1929	..	..	..	9,260,112	4,236,136
1930	..	..	..	8,648,084	2,936,789
1931	..	..	..	8,587,254	2,319,879

Cinnamon.—The value of cinnamon dropped still further in the year under review. Exports also declined slightly. Mexico, the principal consumer in 1930, dropped to fifth in 1931, the first four countries being Spain, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

The average prices per cwt. for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.		Quills. Rs. c.	Chips. Rs. c.	Year.		Quills. Rs. c.	Chips. Rs. c.
1927	..	144 79	20 60	1930	..	49 41	11 15
1928	..	139 3	21 15	1931	..	31 83	7 93
1929	..	98 49	19 48				

Total exports for 1929, 1930, and 1931 were—

		Quantity.		Value.	
		Quills. Cwt.	Chips. Cwt.	Quills. Rs.	Chips. Rs.
1929	..	37,059	11,158	3,566,735	217,705
1930	..	35,915	8,234	1,683,713	96,270
1931	..	35,261	6,680	1,115,756	61,628

Arecanuts.—There was a drop in the quantity exported as compared with the previous year. 88 per cent. of the exports went to British India.

Total exports for 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931 were—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	123,338	3,247,198	1930..	113,067	2,621,308
1929 ..	144,169	2,699,085	1931..	101,916	1,677,954

Citronella Oil.—Exports remained steady, while the price dropped from Re. 1.11 per lb. to 79 cents per lb. The principal buyers were the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

Total exports of citronella oil for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1927 ..	1,358,191	1,264,745	1930..	1,213,542	1,346,034
1928 ..	1,200,001	1,046,598	1931..	1,203,482	948,298
1929 ..	1,183,239	1,326,452			

Cardamoms.—Exports fell from 2,801 cwt. in 1930 to 2,712 cwt. in 1931. The largest buyers were the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Sweden, and Germany. The average value fell from Re. 1.44 per lb. in 1930 to Re. 1.27 in 1931.

Plumbago.—The quantity exported showed a further decrease as compared with 1930. Exports to Japan remained more or less steady, but those to the three other principal purchasing countries were much less than in the preceding year (*vide* the subjoined table). The average value was Rs. 9.14 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 10.02 per cwt. in 1930.

The exports since 1928 are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	286,931	2,704,359	1930..	174,478	1,775,317
1929 ..	254,776	2,729,639	1931..	134,413	1,225,331

The following table shows the quantities taken by the chief consuming countries:—

Year.	Quantity in Cwt. taken by			
	United States of America.	Germany.	United Kingdom.	Japan.
1928 ..	138,942	54,267	30,404	19,177
1929 ..	134,631	35,980	31,244	23,640
1930 ..	63,845	29,787	28,154	26,341
1931 ..	53,308	19,951	17,345	24,937

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

LABOUR IN CEYLON.

CEYLON is almost entirely an agricultural country and practically all its labour finds work in agricultural employment.

Its main cultivations consist of 1,000,000 acres approximately of paddy land, 400,000 acres of tea, 500,000 acres of rubber, and about 1,000,000 acres of coconuts.

A large part of the tea grown lies in the hills and is a lineal descendant of the coffee industry. Coffee was almost completely exterminated through disease about 55 years ago. Tea is almost completely worked by Indian labour.

Coconuts, which have throughout been a very popular means of investment of the Ceylonese, have steadily increased in area during the century: these are almost entirely worked by Ceylonese labour, being situated in districts with substantial populations and the work being easily fitted in with village activities.

Rubber, which is largely the result of plantations in the last 35 years, employs equal proportions of Indian and Ceylonese labour.

All these cultivations are worked on a wage earning basis.

Paddy is in general worked either on a share basis by cultivators for the owners or by the owners and their families.

Coffee, the precursor of tea, when originally opened was in areas largely forest and the indigenous population was, in general, unwilling to undertake work on estates. Moreover, in many of the areas in which it was planted the indigenous population was too scanty to meet the heavy demands.

The large labour surplus existing in South India, a surplus created through the barrenness of the soil and social custom, was tapped, and there commenced about 100 years ago an inflow which, rising and falling from good year to bad year, has persisted till the present day.

In 1847, 46,000 Indian labourers arrived in Ceylon; in 1857, 69,000; 1867, 53,000; and 1877, 167,000. Practically all these labourers walked from the areas round Trichinopoly and following the present rail route entered Ceylon by Mannar Island and walked by road to the estates.

It was a two-way traffic, comparable numbers returning by the same route.

This Indian estate population was 10,000 in 1827, 80,000 in 1846, and by the end of 1931 700,000.

All this labour is and has been housed on the estates and, curiously enough, has remained largely unaffected by indigenous village life in close proximity to the estate. It practically never marries outside, retains its language and customs. There is a certain leakage into Ceylonese life but it is of very small.

It has been stated that Ceylonese workers have been disinclined to work for wages on estates: as a generality that is true, but the rubber industry, which has grown up these last thirty years was, even up to two years ago, largely worked by Ceylonese labour, about 40 per cent. of the acreage in this product being worked by Sinhalese. In general, however, this 40 per cent. consists of smaller estates and was worked by villagers non-resident on the estate.

Estates, though they have not drawn to the extent one might anticipate on village labour, have profoundly modified village life by the ancilliary work provided. The provision of firewood, carting, and numerous other works improve the economic conditions of the village, and the expenditure in villages of estate money modifies their activities.

The large coconut areas which are all in the low-country are, however, but rarely worked by Indian labour. The demands are small, only about 1 labourer per 10 acres, as against 12 for 10 acres in tea. There is not the necessity for so much steady cultivation. A coconut estate can fit itself into the slack periods of a village after the paddy has been reaped.

Coconut estates are thus mainly cultivated by indigenous labour, and even where Indian labour is employed, it tends more to merge itself into the village population.

Earlier has been described the genesis of the Indian labour force on Ceylon estates. The difficulties and hardships of the journey to Ceylon have now been entirely removed. One-sixth of the Indian labour force, over 100,000, return to India yearly, so every recruit has opportunities of securing at first hand accurate information as to his opportunities in Ceylon.

After arrival at any of the 18 emigration agencies maintained in South India, he is fed and well housed during all detention on the journey, provided with rations for his railway journeys and escorted by peons throughout. Should he change his mind on the way, he will be returned to his village.

All this journey is entirely free of charge to the recruit or old labourer returning to his estate after a holiday in India; no discrimination is made between recruits and those who have visited India on holiday.

In a busy year the cost of this service is Rs. 3,000,000 to the Immigration Fund. In a slump year like the present about half the sum.

This money is provided by a cess based on acreage from those estates employing Indians. For this service for the present year tea will pay about Rs. 2 per acre and rubber 66 cents.

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR.

Viewed from a Western standpoint there is but little industrial labour in Ceylon. The manufactures on any scale are the preparation of desiccated coconut and the treatment of coconut husks for fibre. To diminish carting, such mills are widely distributed over the coconut districts and depend mainly on local labour. A few of the large mills are worked by Indian labour which is housed by the owners.

Engineering firms in Colombo employ large numbers of labourers both Indian and indigenous; work being naturally of a very varied character the amount of space available in factories is large per man and there is little tendency to overcrowding.

The largest amount of employment is provided by the preparation of the Island's produce for export and its dispatch to steamers.

It can be generally said that such labour when skilled or highly skilled is indigenous; the semi-skilled and unskilled work employs probably more Indian labourers than indigenous.

These Indians are not recruited, as for estates, but come to the Island with relations for work. Like their estate *confreeres* the better and more prudent workers make frequent trips to India, leaving substitutes, during their absence, to do their work. Such workers meet the expenses of their journey to India both ways.

Indian workers who are incapacitated by sickness, old age, or other infirmity are repatriated at the expense of the Immigration Fund to India: other Indian workers falling into vagrancy are repatriated at the joint expense of the Fund and Government.

No Indian or Ceylonese workers are or have been indentured, practically all work on monthly contracts, for the enforcement of which on the part of the employee no penal provisions now exist.

All servants and labourers are entitled to free food and lodging and medical care at the expense of their employers during sickness.

In the case of Indian estate labourers this is always given. In the case of indigenous labour drawing less than Rs. 50 a month free medical attention is provided at the numerous Government hospitals and dispensaries.

Women labourers resident on estates are entitled to food, lodging, and medical care at childbirth and in estates employing Indians care allowances are almost always given.

Trade Unions are generally small, imperfectly organized and exert but little influence save in Colombo.

No Indian labourer under ten years of age may be employed on estates and there are limitations on the employment of women and children in factories.

WAGES.

For Indians on Ceylon estates an Ordinance based on the English Trade Boards Acts creates the machinery for the fixation of minimum rates of wages for time work on estates.

The rates have in the past been fixed so as to provide the same real wage throughout as far as is administratively practicable.

The rates now fixed in the low-country are 41 cents for men, 33 cents for women, and 24 cents for children over ten years of age for a working day of 9 hours, including time for a midday meal. The estates must issue rice: seven-eighths of a bushel per man and six-eighths per woman at Rs. 4.80 a bushel.

In addition, on nearly all estates, the non-working children are given a midday meal.

Though not included in the wage, free housing and firewood are provided on all estates.

In dealing with labour employed in Colombo a gauge can best be obtained from the Government scale which is:—

" Class A.—Factory Labour—Hourly-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government rated at hourly rates of pay working a 48-hour week and controlled in an establishment by a definite check system for purposes of recording hours worked and for payment of wages.

Labour employed by Government will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his works.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

				Rates per Hour.	
				Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	..	Class A I.	..	48	81
		Class A II.	..	31	63
Tradesmen	..	Class A III.	..	36	53
		Class A IV.	..	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	..	Class A V.	..	12	20
Unskilled labour	..	Class A VI.	..	8	14
Trade apprentices	..	Class A VII.	..	10	18
Women and boys	..	Class A VIII.	..	3	10

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity.

Class B.—Non-factory Labour—Daily-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government on daily rates of pay. Payment to daily-paid labour to be made on the basis of a day's pay for each regulation day's work performed. The hours laid down for a regulation day will vary in accordance with the class of work labour is employed on, and such hours will be fixed departmentally.

Labour employed by Government will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his branch.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

				Rate per Diem.	
				Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	..	Class B I.	..	3 84	6 48
Do.	..	Class B II.	..	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	..	Class B III.	..	2 88	4 24
Do.	..	Class B IV.	..	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	..	Class B V.	..	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	..	Class B VI.	..	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	..	Class B VII.	..	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	..	Class B VIII.	..	0 24	0 80

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity."

In general housing is not provided, but Colombo offers unequalled marketing opportunities.

Rates prevailing in the organized Colombo industries will not be dissimilar to those given above but Government employ would be the more attractive.

The day worked is generally one of 8 hours with provision for overtime.

These rates show a tendency, with declining business, to fall but the value of them has largely been reduced through short time work now increasingly being enforced on both Government and non-Government labour.

Wages are in general paid monthly though in Colombo large numbers are paid weekly and fortnightly. No penal clauses to enforce payment exist save on Ceylon estates where wages must all be paid by the tenth day of the following month.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The volume of business in exports has kept up though there has been a fall in imports both in volume and value. The unemployment among the large numbers employed in handling produce at stores and the harbour has thus not greatly been affected.

However, restriction on capital expenditure has largely reduced the work available in the Colombo engineering establishments resulting not merely in substantial reduction of staff, both skilled and unskilled, but also in short time work.

The collapse in rubber has led to the discontinuance of probably not less than 100,000 labourers formerly in regular estate employment. A fraction of the Indian labourers has chosen to be repatriated but much larger numbers have been absorbed in tea estates. Ceylonese rubber estate employees have returned to their villages naturally increasing the pressure on the village land. However this pressure has led to a considerable increase in cultivation.

Reduction in the labour forces on tea estates necessitated by low prices has been adjusted by their taking work on the less popular estates which have inadequate supplies of labour.

Free repatriation to practically all Indian rubber estate labourers is given but the necessity for this has not yet arisen in tea.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is under the general supervision and control of the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 34 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board consist in considering questions of legislation and policy, and in advising the Government on any other matters specially referred to it for advice.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality, Urban District, and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education, and they frame their own by-laws and employ their own attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine, and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are two distinct types of school: schools administered directly by Government, and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

There are 1,498 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,621 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged, and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) Non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts about six years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 79.54 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which an optional course of English is introduced, lasting for approximately five years. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language

is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

School for the Deaf and Blind.—During the year 1931 48 new children were admitted to the school, making a total number of 322. Of these 116 are deaf boys, 90 are blind boys, 63 are deaf girls and 53 are blind girls. Many of the children newly admitted came in a very weak and undeveloped condition and needed every care.

The school has naturally suffered very severely from the great financial depression. But this has in some part been counteracted by the splendid response to the Flag Day appeal which was made in all parts of the Island in October.

The question of fire protection has been considered and, during the year, each dormitory has been supplied with fire extinguishers and fire drill has been given. Plans are being made for further protection works.

There are now about 80 boys and girls in the industrial section of the school, all of whom are given a small wage in order to inculcate a spirit of independence and reliance in themselves that when trained they will be able to earn their own living. Out of the wages so earned they reimburse the school for their board and lodging and also supply their own clothes, &c. Training is being given in weaving, carpentry, rattan work, tailoring, pottery, knitting, needlework, and lacemaking. The sale of articles made in the workshops by the boys and girls in training has increased, and it has been possible to cover the production costs in all sections except basketwork.

The health of the children during the year has on the whole been very good.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A capitation grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an Orphanage on account of each orphan or destitute child between the ages of 5 and 15 who has attended a registered school and has been in residence at an approved orphanage or home for a period of not less than nine months. Such grants during 1931 amounted to Rs. 80,525.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. 124 juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 309.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at two jails in the Colombo District. There are 46 pupils at one and 111 pupils at the other. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 12 pupils.

Lepers.—Much good work is done at the school for lepers at Hendala by the sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school consists of 3 sections—English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. In the English section there are 28 pupils, in the Sinhalese 32, and in the Tamil 28.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1931, the beginning of the academic year 1931-32, was 355, including 33 women students. The figures for 1921-30 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1925	..	256	1929	..	338
1922	..	217	1926	..	313	1930	..	394
1923	..	262	1927	..	279			
1924	..	262	1928	..	315			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1931, 34 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 211, of whom 17 obtained Honours in Classics, 5 in English, 13 in History, 23 in Mathematics, 7 in Indo-Aryan, 5 in Chemistry, 3 in Botany, and 2 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship, which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and goes to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1931 is as follows:—

Advocates	::	::	::	::	::	17
Proctors						56

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1931:—

					Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	::	::	::	::	89	57
Proctors					226	105

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

Introduction.—The position of the port of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important one in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the South and East by the land and on the North and West by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 229 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 118 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet and 122 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 174 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 38 vessels in the North-East monsoon and 23, or using packed berths, 39 vessels in the South-West monsoon. Six of these berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and it is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port:—

Electric cranes ..	12	Hand derrick ..	1
Steam cranes ..	30	Steam derrick ..	1
Hand cranes ..	14	Mobile crane ..	1
Elephant hand crane ..	1		

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—Goods discharged being not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transshipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour Canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no

Further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which has direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transshipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transshipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transshipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 47,736 tons, but there is a steady traffic, with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports, of transshipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good dispatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1931):—

Type.				Prices Trimmed.	
				Per Ton.	
				s.	d.
Welsh large	44 0
Welsh $\frac{3}{4}$ large, $\frac{1}{4}$ small	41 6
Natal	31 0

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installations Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation.

Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle, 220 feet; breadth of cradle, 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the Port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; The Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; one Unofficial Member nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

Distances.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief ports of the world on the various routes are as follows:—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100 ..	8
Suez	3,407 ..	12
Port Said	3,494 ..	13
Marseilles	5,091 ..	16
Gibraltar (<i>via</i> Marseilles)	5,690 ..	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407 ..	18
London (by sea <i>via</i> Marseilles)	7,005 ..	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725 ..	23
London (overland)	5,868 ..	17

Colombo to India, &c.

Calcutta	1,260 ..	7
Bombay	875 ..	3
Rangoon	1,249 ..	4½
Penang	1,276 ..	5
Singapore	1,567 ..	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113 ..	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966 ..	17
Yokohama (<i>via</i> Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083 ..	23

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121 ..	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle) ..	4,479 ..	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979 ..	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556 ..	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

Mauritius	2,099 ..	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680 ..	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362 ..	21-30

Passage Fares.

Colombo-London :—				Colombo-Yokohama :—			
1st class single	..	..	£62 to £92	1st Class single by P. & O.	..	..	£46
2nd class single	..	..	£50 to £62	2nd class single by P. & O.	..	..	£26
3rd and tourist single	..	..	£27 to £52				
Colombo-Sydney :—				Colombo-Bombay :—			
1st class single	..	..	£48	1st class single	..	..	£10
2nd class single	..	..	£32	2nd class single	..	..	£7
3rd and tourist single	..	..	£22 to £41				
Colombo-Melbourne :—				Colombo-Calcutta :—			
1st class single	..	..	£45	1st class single	..	..	£10
2nd class single	..	..	£30	2nd class single	..	..	£8
3rd and tourist single	..	..	£21 to £40				
Colombo-Durban :—				Colombo-Rangoon :—			
1st class single	..	..	£27½	1st class single	..	..	Rs. 180
Colombo-Singapore :—				Colombo-Port Said :—			
1st class single by P. & O.	..	..	£22	1st class single	..	..	£40 to £72
2nd class single by P. & O.	..	..	£12	2nd class single	..	..	£33 to £52½
				3rd and tourist single	..	..	£22 to £48
Colombo-Hong Kong :—				Colombo-Marseilles :—			
1st class single by P. & O.	..	..	£36	1st class single	..	..	£58 to £88
2nd class single by P. & O.	..	..	£20	2nd class single	..	..	£47 to £60
				3rd and tourist single	..	..	£25 to £52
				Colombo-Boston and New York			
							£62 to £151

Baggage Allowances.—The usual baggage allowance is 3 cwt. in case of first class, and 1½ cwt. in the case of second class passengers.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Colombo Fort to	Distance.		Train Fare.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.		Colombo Fort to	Distance.		Train Fare.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
	M.	C.	Rs. c.				M.	C.	Rs. c.	
Peradeniya	71	62	5 5	31*		Polonnaruwa	162	1	11 40	81*
Kandy	75	12	5 30	31*		Batticaloa	217	78	15 25	12
Nanu-oya	128	62	10 45	31*		Trincomalee	184	25	12 95	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135	27	11 20	71*		Mount Lavinia	7	47	0 55	1*
Bandarawela	161	34	13 90	12*		Galle	70	38	4 95	2½*
Anuradhapura	127	31	8 95	5½*						

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1927-28 to 1930-31 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1927-28. Rs.	1928-29. Rs.	1929-30. Rs.	1930-31. Rs.
Total capital outlay	211,049,795	217,574,271	220,522,956	223,460,704
Gross earnings	31,285,599	32,498,947	29,650,683	25,324,379
Total working expenses*	23,560,496	25,996,899	25,085,120	23,809,570
Net revenue†	7,725,103	6,502,048	4,565,563	1,514,803
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	3.66 p.c.	2.99 p.c.	2.07 p.c.	.68 p.c.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	12,087,692	12,595,114	11,599,508	9,653,763
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	19,197,907	19,993,833	18,051,175	15,670,616
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Maintenance and renewal of way and works and of rolling stock, locomotive running expenses, traffic expenses, general charges (including pensions and gratuities), and motor service.

† That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has fallen off by 3,089,595, the total conveyed during the year being 14,919,282.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 16,178, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 200,389.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,598,439, or a decrease of 250,514.

The tonnage of goods carried has decreased from 1,256,519 tons to 1,013,836 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increase. Tons.		Decrease Tons.
Copra ..	3,603	Kerosene oil, bulk petroleum, liquid fuel ..	4,489
Packing for tea, &c. ..	752	Manure ..	60,072
	Decrease. Tons.	Petrol ..	2,847
Agricultural produce ..	3,252	Rice ..	14,339
Coconut produce ..	3,035	Rubber ..	16,611
Bricks and tiles ..	3,941	Tea ..	7,287
		Sundry goods ..	85,166

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 7 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya and 10½ cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Second Class, 4½ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, and 7 cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Third Class, 2½ cents per mile on all lines. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo and Bandarawela are each provided with accommodation for ten passengers. They are all two-berth compartments, each having lavatory accommodation. Each berth is numbered, and provided with bedding, and an attendant accompanies each car. Berths will only be reserved on prepayment before 6.30 p.m. of the ordinary first-class fare plus Rs. 5 for the sleeping berth.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern Lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya, on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

First class	..	112	Third class	..	56
Second class	..	84			

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities:—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department	All main thoroughfares in the Island	4,788
(i.) District Road Committees	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee	3,000
(ii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz. Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c.	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	—	70
(vi.) Private parties	—	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of population with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces:—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,698
Track-metalled	495
Gravelled	466
Natural	129
	<hr/> 4,788

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry-weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1931 the length of roads so treated was 3,122 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the Motor Map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo, price Rs. 2.60.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (via Badulla)	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (via Matale)	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (via Kurunegala)	169
Nuwara Eliya (via Peradeniya)	112	Anuradhapura (via Puttalam)	129
Nuwara Eliya (via Glinigathena)	106½	Jaffna (via Puttalam)	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, until it reached 24,405 on December 31, 1930. Owing to the depression in the major industries of the Island the number on December 31, 1931, decreased to 23,577. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the

Government certificate of competence, while many hold certificates from the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages. The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Clubs and Associations in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association.

Motor Buses.—There has been a very large increase recently in the numbers of motor omnibuses carrying passengers for hire and they now run on nearly every main road in the Island.

There is seating accommodation for 8 to 30 persons in a motor bus.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyances on payment of the prescribed charges.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods, and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 1 to 3 tons and travel about 8 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene. In 1931 there were about 2,900 motor lorries in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass via Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelati-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 76 miles of channel maintained by dredging in the lagoons at Jaffna and Batticaloa—Jaffna 40 miles and Batticaloa 36 miles.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1931, 870 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows:—

152 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. 69 Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. 1 Post Office (at the Colombo Passenger Jetty) transacted all classes of business except parcel work. 1 Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. 18 Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

- 36 Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 124 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.
- 432 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 36 Railway Stations facilities for the dispatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,136 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,269 are laid underground, and 46,088 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 33,023 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

MAIL SERVICES.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *via* Bombay are dispatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are dispatched fortnightly *via* Bombay and direct once a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *via* Talaimannar except on Saturdays. A regular weekly dispatch of air mail articles is made to the United Kingdom and South America to connect with the Karachi-London and Marseilles-Buenos Aires air services respectively. Correspondence intended for dispatch by the internal air services of certain countries (Australia, Dutch East Indies, and United States of America) are dispatched regularly once a week.

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight ..	Cents. 6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces ..	Cents. 2
For post cards, each ..	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds. . .	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

For letters, per ounce or part of that weight ..	Cents. 9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight ..	Cents. 3
For post cards, each ..	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

For letters, for the first ounce ..	Cents. 20	For post cards, each ..	Cents. 12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight ..	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight ..	4

INLAND CASH-ON-DELIVERY SYSTEM.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

FOREIGN CASH-ON-DELIVERY SYSTEM.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

MONEY ORDERS.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be dispatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be dispatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

POSTAL ORDERS.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from from 6d. to 21s., the difference between each up to 19s. being 6d., and 1s. between 19s. and 21s. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide". Broken amounts up to 5d. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps in the spaces provided on the order.

INLAND TELEGRAMS.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 35 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is 90 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 15 cents for each additional two words or less.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL TELEGRAMS.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 25 cents to Rs. 5.20 for ordinary, and from 20 cents to Rs. 2.60 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 9 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

CHEAP RATE TELEGRAMS.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as "Daily Letter Telegrams" or "Week-end Letter Telegrams" to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which these services are available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 9 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

RADIO-TELEGRAMS.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.		Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free	All other Government or private telegrams On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	65
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	40	(a) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
		(b) Finnish ships the charge is	50
		The time range is about 30 hours,	

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines the charge is as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	5
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	3

The minimum annual rental of a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and that of a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank	..	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office	..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon	..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
London Office	..	22, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2
Name of Bank	..	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	26, Bishopsgate London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon..	..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon	..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	..	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office	..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon	..	Queen street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	..	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office	..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon	..	22, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	..	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon..	..	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	..	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	..	75-77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclays Bank, Ltd.; Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.
Name of Bank	..	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office	..	117-122, Leadenhall street, London, E. C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York Street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	Lloyds Bank, Ltd; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland
Name of Bankers	..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London. W. 1
Branch in Ceylon	..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	..	National Provincial Bank, Ltd.

BANKING AGENCIES.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Count's & Co	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.	do.
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	do.
Bank of Montreal	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	do.

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

There were, on April 30, 1931, 600 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 2 were Co-operative Central Banks, 540 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 18 societies of Limited Liability, 18 Thrift Societies, 15 Supervising Unions, 3 Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Mortgage Bank, 2 Sale Societies, 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 24,068 members. Another Central Bank and a considerable number of other Societies have since been registered, but statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30.

The Societies were handling on April 30 a little less than two millions of rupees. The Co-operative Central Banks exist for the purpose of attracting funds in the form of deposits from the general investing public and lending them to registered societies.

Attention has been concentrated on the thorough training of primary societies in the principles and practice of co-operation, and particularly on the organization of secondary institutions designed to make the movement independent of direct assistance from Government. These consist mainly of Central Banks, whose object is to provide and control the necessary finance, and Supervising Unions which are intended to provide scope for unofficial workers and gradually to take over the whole work of propaganda and supervision.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 11.54 for the year ending on April 30, 1931. A few Supply Societies have worked successfully, but this branch of the work has proved to be very difficult. There is at present a strong demand for new societies.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1s. 6d.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order-in-Council, 1931, the Public Works Department came under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

On account of the acute financial depression prevailing in the Island, the votes of the Department for the financial year 1930-31 were greatly reduced and the programme of new public works drastically curtailed. The total expenditure by the Department amounted only to Rs. 11,810,844, as against Rs. 19,564,487 during the previous year (1929-30) and Rs. 26,832,348 the year before (1928-29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed and in progress during the year:—

NEW BUILDINGS AND ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS.

Completed:—

New Secretariat, Galle Face.
Extensions to Government Technical Schools, Colombo.
Two additional wards, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
New Police Court and quarters, Gampaha.
Additions and improvements to Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
New Police Station and quarters, Horana.
Polonnaruwa Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Dambulla Hospital.
Surgical Ward, Deniyaya Hospital.
Quarters for Medical Officer, Mullaitivu Hospital.
New Lighthouse, Point Pedro.
Extensions to the Badulla Post Office.
New Post Office and quarters, Kegalla.

In Progress:—

Additions and improvements to Mahara Prison.
Additions and improvements to Matara Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Tissamaharama Hospital.

Among the new buildings completed, one work of outstanding importance is the New Secretariat on Galle Face. This building now houses a large number of the principal public offices in a manner worthy of the Island, and constitutes a notable addition to the architectural features of the City of Colombo.

BRIDGES.

Completed:—

Bridge on 10th mile, Minuwangoda-Veyangoda road.
Belihul-oya bridge.

In Progress:—

Pusweli-oya bridge on Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
 Minuwangoda bridge No. 21/3, Jaala-Kotadeniya road.
 Balapitiya bridge No. 37 on 51st mile, Colombo-Galle road.
 Alawwa bridge.
 Algoda bridge.

NEW ROADS.*Completed:—*

Norton-Luccombe road.
 Deviation road at Matara.

In Progress:—

Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
 Point Pedro-Maruthankerni road.
 Kuchchaveli-Yan-oya road
 Bowatte-Mola Eliya road (under the Estates Road Ordinance).

ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS.*Completed:—*

Widening and improving Katugastota-Palapattwela road.
 Improving Polonnaruwa-Topawewa road.
 South Coast Road extension.
 Improving Kurunegala-Galagedara road.
 Improving Polgahawela-Alawwa road.
 Widening Passara-Dunedin road.
 Improving Rambukkana-Katupitiya road.

In Progress:—

Improving Valaichchenai-Mananpitiya road.
 Kiriyaikalli-Andigama road.
 Warakapola-Ruanwella road.
 Widening and improving Ambepussa-Alawwa road.

Waterworks.—The Chilaw Waterworks were completed and put into operation. The water supply to Bandarawela from the Nayabedde springs was also completed and brought into use.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island, where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon are divided into two main classes, namely, major works and village works. Major works comprise the larger tanks and other works that have been constructed or restored by the Government. The owners of land irrigated by these works are liable to contribute towards the cost of their construction and maintenance, the conditions varying with the different works. Village works include all the smaller works, which are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials.

Construction and Maintenance of Irrigation Works.—The construction and maintenance of all major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department, while village works are attended to by the Provincial administration with the assistance of irrigation officers seconded for the purpose.

A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years for systematizing the restoration and improvement of village irrigation works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation.

The principal construction works on which the Irrigation Department was engaged during 1931, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows:—

Kirima-oya Scheme, Southern Province.—The construction of masonry dams to replace temporary sand dams across the river, and improved channel systems.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—The development of irrigation and road facilities.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.—Eight miles of the main channel and several large masonry works thereon have so far been constructed.

Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.—The distributary channel and agricultural road system is being considerably extended in order to provide irrigation and access facilities for some 8,000 acres.

Unnichchai Scheme.—The extension of the main left bank channel and agricultural road systems have been proceeded with in order to provide for the further development of this scheme.

Tabbowa Scheme.—Construction of the channel and agricultural road system is proceeding.

Extent and benefits of Irrigation in Ceylon.—The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 156,052 acres, and under restored village works 194,884 acres. The yield from major works alone was roughly 3,400,000 bushels during 1931.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food, there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land bring about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated, and, as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry-zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—In consequence of the periods of intense rainfall to which Ceylon is liable, the rivers are liable to periodical floods, which cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. In particular, the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was for many years a matter for serious consideration by Government.

A scheme designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department for protecting the Colombo South area from floods was completed in 1925, and a similar scheme for Colombo North in 1927. Considerable benefits have been derived from these schemes during the period they have been in operation. In May, 1930, however, an exceptionally high flood breached the embankment of the Colombo North scheme and caused considerable damage.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department, and many applications have been made for flood protection for areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces, and in other parts of the Island.

The schemes already completed are—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of low-lying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of low-lying land from minor floods.

Kalu-oya-Maturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of land in the Bolgoda area, liable to flooding from the Kalu-ganga, has been under construction during 1930, but the financial position of the Island has necessitated the temporary closing-down of the construction work. Several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF CEYLON.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of extortion. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences:—

- (a) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years;
- (b) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees;
- (c) Whipping;
- (d) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 37 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do:—

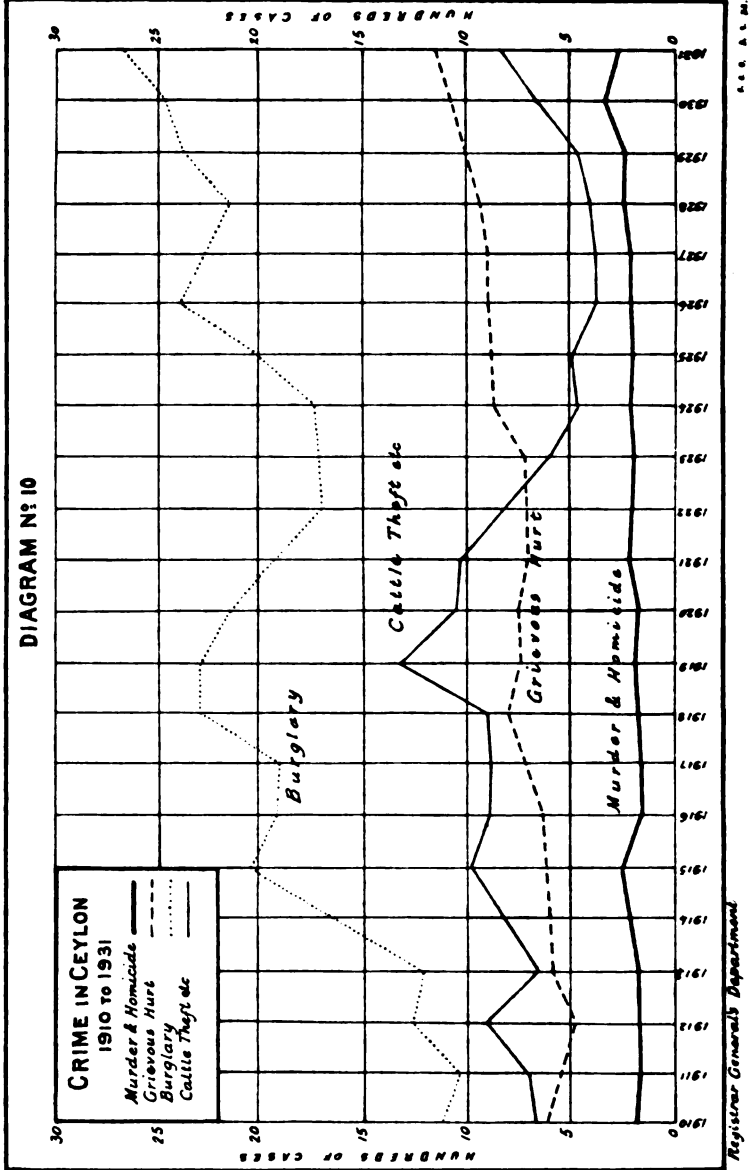
- (a) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months;
- (b) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees;
- (c) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age;
- (d) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

There are 41 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.



Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 194 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 23 in the Western Province, 32 in the Central, 46 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 21 in the Eastern, 18 in the North-Western, 14 in the North-Central, 16 in the Uva, and 18 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 80 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 67 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Southern Province, and 1 each in the Eastern and North-Western Provinces.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c.:—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	No. of Courts.	No. of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	6	1 Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges
District Court	22	26	There are 4 Judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, and one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hattton. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges.
Police Court	37	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each:—Badulla, Bandarawela, Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya; Nuwara Eliya, Hattton; Jaffna, Kayts, Mullakam; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri; Batticaloa, Kalmutai
Village Tribunal	194	59	—
Village Committee	80	—	—

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 164 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is now 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 39 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 186 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 362 Sergeants, and 2,506 Constables.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Homicide	243	334	277
Attempted homicide	114	151	151
Grievous hurt	1,004	1,081	1,156
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,427	1,433	1,594
Housebreaking	2,385	2,468	2,661
Theft of cattle	479	670	854
Other offences	3,437	3,552	3,448
Total	9,089	9,689	10,141

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by Police action), " Offences against Property ", and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.			Total crime.		Offences against the person (excluding robbery).		Offences against property (including robbery).		Offences against the State.
1926	..	..	8,707	..	2,755	..	5,914	..	38
1927	..	..	8,617	..	2,798	..	5,760	..	59
1928	..	..	8,809	..	2,881	..	5,866	..	62
1929	..	..	9,089	..	2,978	..	6,055	..	56
1930	..	..	9,689	..	3,235	..	6,389	..	65
1931	..	..	10,141	..	3,407	..	6,638	..	96

The figures under each of these 4 heads are higher than those of any previous year of which the Police have record and there can be no doubt that the industrial depression which prevailed throughout the year is largely responsible for the increase of crime. Reports from many districts indicate that there has been a marked increase in thefts of cattle and foodstuffs and this increase is probably due to real poverty and the difficulty experienced in obtaining food.

Regulation and control of motor traffic.—There were 24,079 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. The increase in the work imposed on the Police and on the courts by the present volume of motor traffic is illustrated by the fact that in 1923 there were only 1,685 prosecutions. Of the 24,079 prosecutions in 1931, 798 were for exceeding the speed limit and 509 for reckless or negligent driving. In addition, 38 cases of causing death by a rash and negligent act and 80 for causing serious injury were instituted under the Penal Code in connection with motor accidents. 2,283 accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island were reported to the Police. Of these 273 were of a serious nature, and in 97 cases the injuries to persons proved fatal. In 20 fatal accidents omnibuses were involved. Omnibuses comprise 10 per cent. of the motor vehicles on the roads, and are therefore responsible for a number of fatal accidents out of proportion to their number. Sixty-eight persons were killed or injured in omnibus accidents. In 51 per cent. of fatal and serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.		Motor vehicles on the road.		Number of prosecutions for exceeding speed limit.		Number of prosecutions for reckless or careless driving.		Fatal accidents.		Total serious and fatal accidents.
1926	..	14,947	..	1,913	..	984	..	109	..	258
1927	..	17,340	..	2,487	..	1,084	..	107	..	292
1928	..	20,623	..	1,061	..	838	..	114	..	273
1929	..	23,565	..	1,567	..	1,139	..	143	..	352
1930	..	24,405	..	1,992	..	763	..	127	..	303
1931	..	23,577	..	798	..	509	..	97	..	273

The financial depression prevailing in Ceylon is reflected in the decrease in the number of new motor vehicles registered, the number falling from over 300 per month in 1927-29 to 90 per month in 1931.

A system of special patrols was maintained to assist the local Police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled by small stations. Besides dealing with offences under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the condition of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities, in checking night-patrolling between stations, and transporting the Police in emergencies, such as fires, riots, &c. In some cases the patrols are supplied with cameras for use in such cases as require the subsequent production of a photograph of the scene in court.

Control of bullock cart and other traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island, attention is paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 9,726 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles. In Colombo and other towns where there are pavements, efforts are made from time to time to induce pedestrians to keep off the road and use the pavements.

Examination of cinematograph films.—As all cinematograph films imported into Ceylon are first exhibited in Colombo, where the Chairman of the Municipal Council is the Censor, it follows that for all practical purposes the Chairman of the Colombo Municipal Council is the Censor for the whole Island.

The censorship is carried out on the following lines :—

Three days before exhibition the following particulars must be furnished to the Superintendent of Police :—

- (1) a list of the films to be exhibited during the week.
- (2) a declaration of the contents of each film.
- (3) an accurate synopsis of the scenes in the films.

The Superintendent of Police examines the declaration and synopsis with a view to finding out whether the film is objectionable, and may, if necessary, order a private exhibition. If the film is found to be objectionable, a report is made to the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who then sees the film. This system of censorship has worked well in the past, and in practice very few applications are made to the Chairman by the Police to prohibit or curtail films. The fact that all films arriving in Ceylon have been already examined by Censors either in England or India provides an additional safeguard.

Maintenance of order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duty of the Police. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and all demonstrations of any size were controlled by the Police.

Only one strike of any consequence occurred in Ceylon during the year. It lasted for some weeks. There were also a number of strikes of minor importance which were quickly settled. An Ordinance designed to regulate and control strikes was passed during the year.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Fore-shore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, the Finger Print and Foot Print Bureau, and the Forged Currency Note Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Criminal Investigation Department by Police Forces of other countries with regard to travellers who may pass through Colombo, owing to the position of the latter as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and rest-houses, and all foreigners.

The Forged Currency Note Bureau dealt with 67 cases of forged notes during the year. In 43 cases the notes were printed from engraved plates, in 5 cases they were produced by means of photography, and in 15 cases they were made by hand.

PRISONS.

Number of admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1931 was 11,969 (11,592 males and 377 females). Of this number 1,198 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 158 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number sentenced to death during the year was 64 (63 males and 1 female), of whom 24 males were executed and 1 died of natural causes.

Daily average population.—The daily average population of the prisons was 4,027.56 (3,954.44 males and 73.12 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 1,993 (17 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,045 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 47. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 90.79.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 6,797. In 1,170 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Juvenile Offenders.

(a) *First offenders.*—The number of admissions of first offenders of the age of 16-23 was 1,234 of which number 804 were for non-payment of fines and 179 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(b) *Reconvicted.*—The number of admissions of reconvicted juvenile offenders was 175 of which number 60 were for non-payment of fines and 14 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1931:—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1931.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
1	20	50	8,780	2,043	909	98	68	11,969	86	999	8,089	1,821	933	41	11,969

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 1,179, as against 1,081 in 1930. 29 prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment as against 46 the previous year. There were 9 escapes and 9 recaptures.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to sub-classification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the youthful offender from the adult and the first offender from the “habitual”. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows:—

Welikada (Colombo), for the detention and training of the following classes:—

- (i.) First offenders with sentences of over two years;
- (ii.) All “star” class, i.e., European or educated Ceylonese first offenders;
- (iii.) Juvenile (under 23 years of age) first offenders irrespective of length of sentence;
- (iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in out stations who are detained in the local prisons.

Mahara is set apart for reconvicted prisoners other than those who are serving preventive detention. Prisoners are also transferred here from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following:—

- (i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less;
- (ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years;
- (iii.) Special class "A", i.e., selected "habituals" from Mahara with sentences of over two years;
- (iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following. —

- (i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment of one month or under;
- (ii.) Short term first offenders with sentences of over one month and up to six months;
- (iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following:—

- (i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners;
- (ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Smaller prisons.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (at Hulfts lorp) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. Juvenile first offenders.—All first offenders of the age of 23 and under are detained at Welikala in separate wards. Scout principles are utilized for their training. The Welikada Prison Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world.

B. Long term first offenders.—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV. for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and in lustry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and can earn remission and then on the same conditions promoted to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it slight privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity, and good conduct badges can be earned.

Another experiment in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in the assisting of the regular prison officers; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges.

C. Reconvicted prisoners.—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class "A". Prisoners in Special Class "A" are treated like first offenders.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class "C". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class "B".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works and on industries. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists in the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on:—Carpentry, tailoring, brush making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes all the linen for all the hospitals, asylums, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1930-31 was Rs. 208,190.56.

Education.—For juveniles, that is, those of the age of 23 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes conducted by volunteer workers have been organized for the benefit of both juveniles and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly juveniles and first offenders, who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and out door. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in all the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Senior Medical Officer who has medical charge of Welikada prison, Hultsdorp and Mahara prisons. Neither at Bogambara nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is a new and up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve all prisons with an accommodation of 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with an accommodation of 35 beds.

In all other prisons a ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 102 in 1931, as against 80 in 1930, and the death rate per thousand of the admissions was 8.52 during the year 1931, as against 7.73 during the year 1930.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

LEGISLATION IN 1931.

THE following Ordinances were passed during the year under review: the first 23 by the old Legislative Council, and the rest by the State Council established by Order-in-Council and inaugurated on July 7, 1931:—

- No. 1.—An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Board of Management of Ceylon Post Office Security Fund and for regulating the issue of Loans from the Fund.
- No. 2.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1842, intituled “ An Ordinance to provide for a Church in Kandy ”.
- No. 3.—An Ordinance to provide further investigation and settlement of industrial disputes.
- No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend the Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912.
- No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend the Irrigation Ordinance, No. 45 of 1917.
- No. 6.—An Ordinance to make Supplementary Provision for the Public Service for the Financial Year 1929-30.
- No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899.
- No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance, 1901, and to make further provision for the interpretation of the written law of the Island.
- No. 9.—An Ordinance to repeal the Audit Ordinance, 1908.
- No. 10.—An Ordinance to define the law relating to Muslim intestate succession, donations and charitable trusts or wakfs.
- No. 11.—An Ordinance to amend the Public Trustee Ordinance, No. 1 of 1922.
- No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend The Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910.
- No. 13.—An Ordinance to amend the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, No. 19 of 1915.
- No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend the Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910 (The Municipal Councils Second Amendment Ordinance, 1931).
- No. 15.—An Ordinance to amend the Ceylon Railway Benefit Association Ordinance, 1908.
- No. 16.—An Ordinance for Establishing and Regulating the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank.
- No. 17.—The Saiva Paripalana Sabhai Ordinance.
- No. 18.—An Ordinance to amend the Explosives Ordinance, 1902.
- No. 19.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Buddhist Temporalities in the Island.

- No. 20.—An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Land Settlement.
- No. 21.—An Ordinance to provide for the Consideration and Decision of Applications in respect of Claims to Lands at the Disposal of the Crown.
- No. 22.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 12 of 1840.
- No. 23.—An Ordinance to amend the Forest Ordinance, 1907.
- No. 24.—An Ordinance to validate an Order made by the Governor and Executive Council on the 28th day of May, 1931, directing the Principal Collector of Customs to cease temporarily to levy certain Customs duties imposed by law.
- No. 25.—An Ordinance to amend the Local Loans and Development Ordinance No. 22 of 1916 as amended by the Local Loans and Development Amendment Ordinance, 1930.
- No. 26.—An Ordinance to amend “ The Irrigation Ordinance, 1917 ”.
- No. 27.—An Ordinance to amend “ The Marriage Registration Ordinance, 1907 ”.
- No. 28.—An Ordinance to amend “ The Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1895 ”.
- No. 29.—An Ordinance to amend “ The School Teachers’ Pension Ordinance, No. 6 of 1927 ”.
- No. 30.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public, Railway and Colombo Electricity Supply services for the financial year 1931-32.

Of the 30 Ordinances in this list 18 were merely amending Ordinances, some of which deserve special mention. No. 11, the Public Trustee Amendment Ordinance, served to bring the principal Ordinance of 1922 into operation by filling up *lacunae* and defining and enlarging the scope of the Public Trustee’s duties. He has now been enabled to undertake the administration of religious and charitable trusts as well. In addition to his functions under this Ordinance, he is also made the sole supervising authority over the trustees of Buddhist temples appointed or nominated under the provisions of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance (No. 19).

The latter is in the nature of a consolidating Ordinance, replacing those of 1905 and 1919, and dealing not only with the care and control of temple properties but also with the registration of “ bhikshus ” (monks) and with the succession to any private property acquired by them and not alienated during their lifetime.

Another amending and consolidating Ordinance is No. 20, the Land Settlement Ordinance, which takes the place of the much criticised enactment of 1897. It makes the procedure less rigid and more helpful to the private individuals who prefer claims against the Crown. It enables the Settlement Officers to enter into equitable arrangements with claimants, subject to an appeal to a Board specially set up for this purpose, and makes it unnecessary to resort to an action at law except when these arrangements fail. It simplifies also the nature of the action to be brought into one merely for a declaration of title against the Crown. In short, it seeks to prevent litigation altogether, and if an action is instituted, to make it simpler and less expensive. And among the new provisions introduced by it, special mention may be made of that for the automatic registration of Settlement Orders free of stamp duty.

The very next Ordinance, No. 21, deals with the connected matter of other claims to lands to which the Crown has indisputable title and enables them to be taken up in appeal before the Board set up under the provisions of No. 20.

Matters now dealt with for the first time are Industrial Disputes, the Muslim law of succession and trusts, and the State Mortgage Bank.

Ordinance No. 3, which is based partly on an English Act of 1919, aims at the prevention of industrial disputes and prescribes a mode of settling them when they arise. The former purpose is to be served by the appointment of Commissions to inquire into any matters relating to industry, trade, or agriculture; and their reports are expected to be of assistance in avoiding disputes. For the second purpose the Controller of Labour is given the power to effect amicable settlements himself or to appoint Conciliation Boards to investigate and settle disputes. Any settlement effected by them and published by the Controller in the prescribed manner is to be binding on both parties, and any breach of it without due notice to the Controller is to be subject to a penalty. The Ordinance however is not to apply to Government servants who are paid other than fixed daily rates, or to persons in the naval, military, and air services and in the Police and Prisons Departments; and any disputes between the Government and its workmen can only be dealt with by the order of the Governor.

No. 10, the Muslim Intestate Succession and Wakfs Ordinance, declares that the law governing intestate succession and donations not involving "*fiduciary commissa*", usufructs or trusts, shall be the Muslim law of the sect to which the intestate belonged, and that all other donations shall be governed by the law of the maritime provinces. And on the lines of the Religious Endowments Act of India, greater power of control over the trust property is given to the persons interested in charitable trusts or "wakfs".

No. 16, the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank Ordinance, is perhaps the most interesting of the new Ordinances. It brings into a being a State Mortgage Bank in Colombo for the sole purpose of granting long term loans for agricultural needs. The Bank is to be under the supervision of a Board of five Directors appointed by the Governor, and in the immediate charge of a Manager. Its first capital, of not more than twenty-five million rupees, is to be found by the sale of debentures of the value of Rs. 50 each and redeemable within 25 years of issue; and for their redemption not only are these the assets of the Bank which are the natural and primary security, but the general revenue of the Island is also pledged as an additional security available as a last resource. The loans are to be given only on primary mortgages of immovable property in Ceylon and only for the purpose of acquiring and developing lands. The period of the loan may vary between 5 and 25 years and the interest is to be not less than 6½ per cent. per annum. The loans are liable to be recalled on the ground of misrepresentation of facts or insufficiency of security; and a procedure for their recovery is laid down which is expected to be speedier in practice than that followed in ordinary actions. Special directions are also laid down regarding accounts, audit, and management generally; and to ensure the credit and safety of the Bank certain acts, such as the use of a loan for unauthorized purposes, are made offences.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION IN 1931.

No new work of any magnitude has been done during the year; but many amendments, involving the drafting of single rules or small sets of rules, have been effected, chiefly to facilitate the tasks of the various local bodies and authorities under the Municipal Councils, the Local Government, and the Village Communities Ordinances and the like.

NOTES ON FACTORY LEGISLATION. &c.

(1) The Mines and Machinery Protection Ordinance of 1896 enables the Governor to make rules for ensuring the safety of persons employed in mines and factories for the promotion of sanitation there and for restricting the work to be done by women and children between moving parts of machinery.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children's Ordinance, No. 6 of 1923, gives effect to the conventions adopted by the International Labour Organization of the League of Nations at Washington on November 28, 1919, and at Geneva on July 9, 1930, and provides that no child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any industrial undertaking and that no young person under 18 and no woman shall work at night except in certain specified industrial undertakings.

Provision has also been made for the proper housing and medical treatment of immigrant labourers on tea and rubber plantations by the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, and the Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912, and the Labour Ordinance, No. 1 of 1923.

(2) There has been no legislation regarding compensation for accidents or provision for old age and sickness for ordinary daily-paid workers. But immigrant labourers under the Ordinances already mentioned and servants under a contract of service are in law entitled to care and treatment during illness.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was—

		Rs.	c.			Rs.	c.
1926-27	..	129,358,916	31	1929-30	..	110,926,863	47*
1927-28	..	134,134,952	93	1930-31	..	101,767,555	90†
1928-29	..	107,818,274	57*				

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years:—

			Expenditure chargeable to general revenue, including accumulated surplus balances.		Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan funds.	
			Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1926-27	..	..	121,046,299	61	2,575,597	43
1927-28	..	..	152,107,200	15	—	—
1928-29	..	..	125,896,034	36*	—	—
1929-30	..	..	110,275,329	29	102,993	21
1930-31	..	..	100,296,064	73	280,463	63

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1931, the sterling debt of the Island stood at: £15,639,693 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £5,595,074 and Rs. 2,026,172.

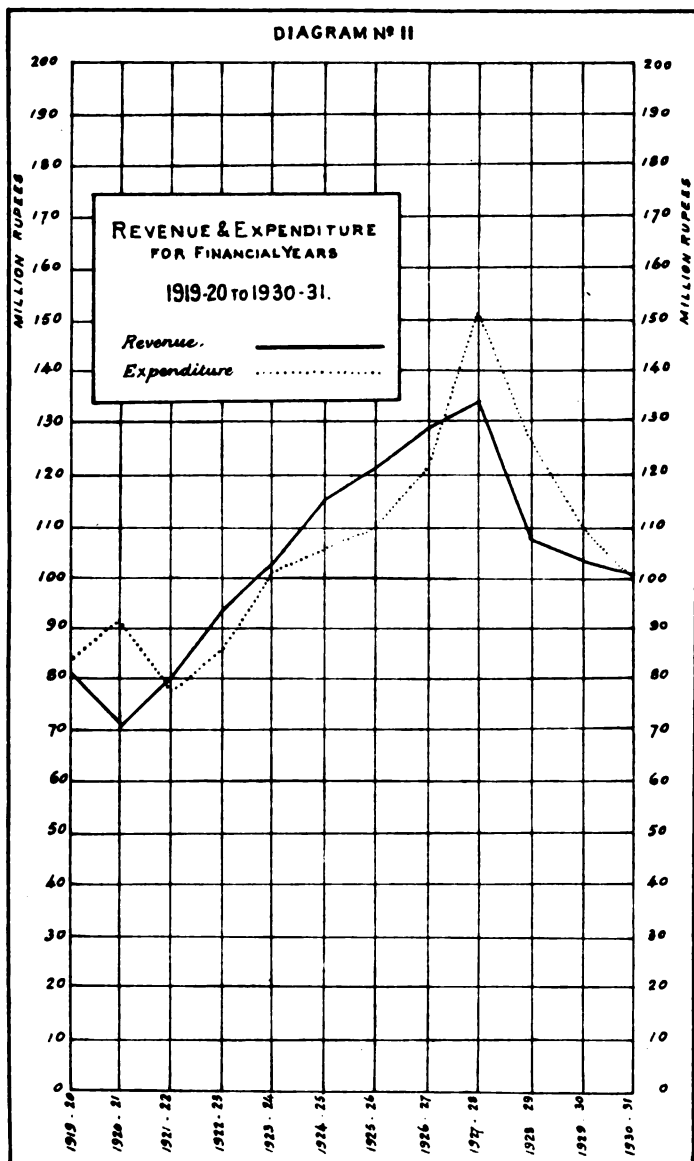
Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1s. 6d. to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 134,902,081 which is a little over one and a half times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1931.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1931, is annexed.

* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the general budget.

† Includes Rs. 7,418,932.41 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

‡ Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.



Registrar General's Department

16495512

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT, 1930-31.

Description of Loan.	Amount.	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.		Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.				Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in Hand pending Investment.				Total (of Columns 5 and 6).		Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.			
		3 Rs.	c.	Face Value of Securities.		Purchase Price.		6		7		8 Rs.	c.				
				£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.						
1	2	£.	s. d.	4	£.	s. d.	5	£.	s. d.	6	£.	s. d.	7	£.	s. d.	8 Rs.	c.
Debentures unredeemed	600 0 0	Rs. 8,000 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934	1,076,100 0 0	14,348,000 0	..	..	1,216,345 16 9	..	1,217,819 1 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,217,819 1 5	..	16,237,587 61	..
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940	2,850,000 0 0	38,000,000 0	..	..	2,321,407 13 5	..	2,108,769 15 7	..	8 1 2	..	..	..	..	2,108,777 16 9	..	28,117,037 83	..
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,500,000 0 0	20,000,000 0	..	..	531,280 15 7	..	442,688 17 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	442,688 17 0	..	5,902,518 0	..
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,000,000 0 0	13,333,333 33	..	..	241,924 19 3	..	202,322 8 5	..	8 2 0	..	..	..	..	202,330 10 5	..	2,697,740 28	..
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-51	6,212,993 8 4	82,839,912 22	..	..	1,284,098 4 6	..	1,330,783 16 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,330,783 16 11	..	17,743,784 61	..
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960-70	1,250,000 0 0	16,666,666 67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965	1,750,000 0 0	23,333,333 33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15,639,693 8 4	208,529,245 55	5,595,037 9 6	5,302,383 19 4	16 3 2	5,302,400 2 6	70,698,668 33								5,802,400 2 6		70,698,668 33	
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944	---	3,000,000 0	66,499 9 4	Rs. 1,310,532.61	66,499 9 1	886,659 39								66,499 9 1		886,659 39	
		211,529,245 55	Rs. 1,136,900.00	Rs. 1,310,532.61	Rs. 1,310,544.86	1,310,544 86								Rs. 1,310,544.86		1,310,544 86	
																72,895,872 58	

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1931, amounted to Rs. 53,018,016.75 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 37,632,412.22, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 15,385,604.53. This surplus was in excess of that on September 30, 1930, by a sum of Rs. 1,191,027.54.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London ..	28,182,333	41
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account ..	24,835,678	34
Total ..	53,018,016	75

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' & Orphans' Pension Fund ..	12,894,784	50
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,105,709	44
(3) Loan Funds ..	8,397,748	23
(4) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries ..	10,681,250	14
(5) Colombo Electricity Supply ..	957,081	36
(6) Other governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds), prize funds and unpaid drafts ..	595,838	55
Total ..	37,632,412	22

TAXATION AND YIELD THEREOF.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Customs ..	43,390,248	84
Salt ..	1,998,969	94
Arrack ..	8,349,497	75
Licences—Sundries ..	549,958	85
Tolls ..	47,298	84
Stamp Duties including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates ..	1,770,658	2
Estate Duties ..	1,181,918	91
Police Rates ..	234,076	87
Betting Tax ..	220,185	29
Total ..	57,742,721	31

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 8,349,497.75 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 1,770,658.02. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 1,295,373.82 and Stamp Duties a decrease of Rs. 1,353,513.29.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review export duties on rubber and coconut produce payable under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were remitted.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1931, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 42,441,002. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,264,177 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,073,996, cost price, or Rs. 30,382,915, market price.

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1931, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 4,897,171.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 8,028,125 were issued to the public and the Banks in exchange for currency notes (Rs. 8,179,412 issued and Rs. 151,287 received).

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 12,620,967, was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1931.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1931 were as follows :—

	s.	d.
Selling Demand ..	1	6 3/16
Selling Telegraphic Transfer ..	1	6 5/32
Buying Demand ..	1	6 9/32

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1930-31, a sum of Rs. 1,051,989.30 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,451,944.78 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 58.75 per cent. of the total value. Local Company shares come second with 19.01 per cent. of the total value.

541 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 4.86 per cent. of the total duty, while 2 estates between Rs. 1,500,000 and Rs. 2,500,000 in value paid 19.85 per cent., 13 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 paid 17.59 per cent., and 6 estates between Rs. 900,000 and Rs. 1,200,000 paid 15.25 per cent. These figures show clearly that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

47.23 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1930-31 was only Rs. 24,690.65.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and

for State requirements such as reserved forests is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture land is reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. A scheme is also in course of preparation under which Ceylonese of moderate means who desire to devote their energies to agriculture may be enabled to take up land without having to compete for it with Companies or large capitalists. It is anticipated that most of the remaining land suitable for agriculture in the wet zone will be required for the above purposes.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood is tending to produce a willingness to move which has not existed hitherto. Under all these peasant settlement schemes lands are being given on terms which preclude subsequent alienation without the consent of Government and ensure that some use is made of the land.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone must turn if it is to have sufficient land for agricultural development, efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. There are still some 12 to 15,000 acres of such land and there are signs that the development of this land will not be very long postponed.

In addition to this a scheme is on foot to encourage the taking up of small farms for ordinary (dry) farming upon land which cannot be irrigated from tanks and the adoption of annual cultivation with the plough and a rotation of crops. It has been proved by experiment that such farming, which has not yet been extensively tried in the dry zone of Ceylon and is something new to the village cultivator, is feasible. It is believed that the future agricultural development of the dry zone largely depends upon the successful introduction of this system of farming.

FORESTS.

Forest revenue dropped further from Rs. 683,882.97 to Rs. 495,774.10. For this general trade depression is not alone responsible, except in the case of export sales of satinwood, realizations from which fell from Rs. 121,088.69 to Rs. 32,715.69. Other contributory factors are the loss of paper credit royalty on supplies to public departments, and the glut of timber available from lands alienated under the liberal land policy of Government. This has had its inevitable repercussion on sales of timber and firewood organized by the department from areas coming under reforestation. These have yielded little, but the position is that the clearing of such lands by lessees, without departmental expenditure, is almost more important than revenue considerations, and areas are often handed over for reforestation without any marketing of their timber content, where no standing market exists. The system of chena reforestation, combining, as it does, forestry and agriculture, is yearly gaining in popularity, and warrants the assurance that after initial successful establishment in the smaller, but highly accessible forest units, it will rapidly expand and radiate to the larger and more isolated forest blocks.

The actual area given out on reforestation leases in 1931 was 1,170 acres, but if the department had accommodated all applicants, it would have exceeded 2,000 acres, for conversion into jak plantations. Progress is checked however by the necessity for careful discrimination among lessees, the non-availability of lands not yet mapped out, uncertainty regarding the total area ultimately available for forest interests, and the necessity for a limited programme of reforestation involving subsequent departmental expenditure for which the vote may be inadequate, and the department must for the present be content with seeing how the forestry machine can be better controlled. Ultimately it is hoped that a total

annual programme of 2,500 acres may be sustained. The area added to regular plantations in 1931 was 749 acres, bringing the total of these to 25,122 acres, on which the expenditure of the year was Rs. 99,571.30.

Progress in up-country reforestation with exotic conifers was well sustained, and is yearly becoming more systematic with the overhauling of arrears of work. Here the annual requirements of timber and fuel, extracted to dépôts, can be gauged with fair accuracy and a new feature of the work is the introduction of sales of firewood to estates from central dépôts, and main reforestation areas, in contrast to the earlier system whereby individual blocks adjacent to estates, were allocated to the estates, which exploited them and carried out the actual work of reforestation. In deference to the view that the hill country is disfigured by these isolated fellings, the process of grouping estates, which can be served from central reforestation blocks in the charge of the department, is expected to develop.

An interesting species among conifers under experiment in up-country reforestation is the Kenya pencil cedar, *juniperus procera*, which shows early promise of adapting itself to Ceylon conditions. Should it do so, this timber should be a valuable asset to the country. Other species of interest are the *araucarias*, in considering future tea box woods, while of timbers required for general use *thuja gigantea* and *cupressus torulosa*, both of them excellent woods, are thriving in young plantation. The principle of up-country reforestation is a mixture of exotic hardwoods and coniferous softwoods, the former consisting of the best timber eucalypts and other broadleaved species, the latter containing a high percentage of the well known *cupressus macrocarpa*, which will be reduced to make way for more valuable species as they pass their trials in experimental plots. The ultimate aim is the reforestation of 20,000 acres, which is all the land available for the purpose. The annual programme is 250 to 300 acres.

The general marketing of hardwood timbers has made no progress. This was inevitable under commercialization, for Government departments which were by far the largest consumers, went off the local product forthwith, in favour of the more readily purchasable imported article. Effort was made to encourage the local sleeper supply from private sources, but the results proved an entire failure, barely 10 per cent. of the indent materializing. The whole subject of creating a market with Government departments for purchasers of forest coupés is under investigation, but is very difficult in the absence of any general market for these timbers, while no satisfactory basis of negotiations between intending suppliers and intending consumers has yet been arrived at. The department is not perturbed in view of the depleted condition of many of these forests, which require a long period of rest, while from the point of view of resultant revenue, such forests are not of great importance. Their valuable contents are scattered, and their exploitation is found to be of low remunerative value. Little progress can be made in the matter until purchasers come forward who are prepared to maintain dépôts for the regular marketing of timber, but in the face of foreign competition this is found to be too great a risk to run. There is in fact no regular market for such material, the extraction costs of which are high. Similarly the department is unable to contemplate departmental extraction against doubtful prospects of disposal.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows :—

- (a) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.
- (b) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.
- (c) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.
- (d) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office. Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

- 4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
- 8-mile to the inch motor maps.
- 6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

- (1) Precise Levelling.
- (2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
- (3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

Passengers' Baggage.—Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 54. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

Importations by Visitors.—A refund of the duty paid by visitors to the Island on articles imported by them is allowed on re-exportation. In the case of motor cars and motor cycles duties will be refunded in full, and in the case of all other articles seven-eighths of the duty paid will be refunded. Further information on the regulations governing refunds can be obtained at the Customs House.

Sea Communications.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of the Island, from the other chief ports of the world, the passage fares, and the duration of the journeys are given on pages 56 and 57.

Railway.—The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15s. 0d.) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12s. 0d.) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and the historic towns.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 57 and 58.

Taxi-cab Fares.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows:—

For the first half-mile	..	..	50 cents
For each subsequent 1/6 mile up to 1 mile	..	..	12½ cents
For each subsequent mile	..	..	75 cents

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality a special agreement should be come to *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

Hotel and other Accommodation.

There are hotels in some of the larger towns in Ceylon. The rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, a usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day.

In addition to hotels, there are about 170 " resthouses " in various parts of the Island, where accommodation and meals are provided. The cost is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a day. Rooms can be occupied generally for three days only unless the permission of the Road Committee has been obtained for a longer stay. It is generally advisable to book rooms in advance.

Places of Interest.

Most of the places of interest in the Island can be visited during a three-weeks' stay in Ceylon. The more important of these are the following:—

Colombo.—Any information desired can be obtained at the Post Office, Railway, and Municipal Bureaux, which have been opened at the jetty. The principal Government and mercantile offices are situated in the Fort within easy reach of the jetty. The General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office are about five minutes' walk from it. Some of the places of interest in Colombo are the Colombo Museum, the Victoria Park, the residential quarter known as Cinnamon Gardens, the Racecourse, the Maligakanda Buddhist temple, and the Hindu temple in Sea street.

Kelaniya, noted for its Buddhist temple, is about four miles to the north-east of Colombo, and can be reached by train or car.

Mount Lavinia and *Negombo* are two towns which attract visitors for sea-bathing. The former is about eight miles to the south of Colombo and has a good hotel by the side of the Railway Station, and the latter is about twenty-four miles to the north of Colombo and has a resthouse.

Galle, an important town 72 miles to the south of Colombo, was the chief port of call in Ceylon before the Colombo breakwaters were built. The ramparts of the Dutch fort are still standing.

Kandy, about 74 miles by rail from Colombo, was the capital of the Kandyan kingdom before it was acquired by the British in 1815. There are a number of buildings of interest that date from the time of the Kandyan kings, such as the various temples, the Old Palace (now used as the residence of the Government Agent, or chief civil official of the Province), and the Audience Hall. There is a small museum, containing some interesting exhibits. Of the temples, special mention should be made of the Temple of the Tooth, which attracts Buddhist pilgrims from all parts of the East. The Perahera or annual festival, held in August, is well worth seeing.

Nuwara Eliya, the hill station, is about 135 miles from Colombo. Its elevation is about 6,200 feet and the mean temperature 59.3° F. It is well equipped with hotels, boarding-houses, and bungalows. Close to it is Pidurutalagala, which presents a commanding view of the country all round.

Trincomalee, situated on the north-east coast of the Island about 183 miles by rail from Colombo, possesses a magnificent natural harbour. It was at one time the Headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. Among the places of interest here are Fort Frederick and Sober Island. There is a fairly good resthouse.

The " Buried Cities " are worth seeing. *Anuradhapura*, on the Northern Line, about 127 miles from Colombo, was the capital and the residence of the Sinhalese kings for more than a thousand years, and contains the remains of numerous sacred monuments. The Thuparama Dagoba, built by King Tissa about the year 247 B.C., is the oldest of the Dagobas in Ceylon, while the sacred Bo-tree—a branch of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment—is another noteworthy relic of the same period and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

Polonnaruwa, situated on the Batticaloa line, about 161 miles from Colombo, became the capital of the Island after the decline of Anuradhapura. It contains the ruins of numerous temples, shrines, and other buildings of great archaeological and historic interest.

The best time for a visit to Ceylon, from a climatic point of view, is from the latter part of November to middle of March. April and May are hot. From June to September is the period of the south-west monsoon, while October and November mark the beginning of the north-east monsoon.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

Publications regarding Ceylon.

The Ceylon Blue Book and the Annual General Report on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island can be consulted at the Imperial Institute and the British Museum.

The Ceylon Publicity Committee, formed in the year under review for the purpose of advertising Ceylon, have issued a brochure on Ceylon which can be obtained from the tourist and the shipping agencies on the continent or in the principal ports of the world. A concise guide to the Island has also been published and can be purchased locally and on board ships.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF TONGA FOR THE YEAR 1931

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APPENDIX : METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Kingdom of Tonga consists of three main groups of islands called respectively Tongatabu, Haapai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuafoou, Niuatobutabu, and Tafahi.

The main groups are situated between the 18th and 22nd degrees of South latitude and the 173rd and 176th degrees of West longitude, and extend over an area of approximately 250 square miles.

The islands consist of two parallel chains running north and south. The western chain is volcanic in formation and the eastern coralline. With the exception of Tofua and Falcon Islands the volcanos are dormant or extinct.

The island of Niuatobutabu was discovered by the Dutch navigators Schouten and Lemaire in 1616. They did not visit the main groups.

In 1643 Tongatabu was discovered by Tasman, and from that year until 1767, when Wallis anchored at Niuatobutabu, there was no contact with the outside world. Captain Cook visited Tongatabu and the Haapai group in 1773 and again in 1777, and named the islands the Friendly Islands. In 1789 Captain Bligh visited the Haapai group. It was in the waters of this group that the mutiny of the *Bounty* occurred.

Niuafuou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. *Pandora* in the year 1791.

Contact with the outside world was now established.

Climate.

The climate of the Tongan group from May to November is good for the tropics. The thermometer rarely registers higher than 80 degrees and the humidity during these months is, as a rule, relatively low. During the wet season, from December to April, the temperature rarely rises above 90 degrees, but the humidity, especially when the wind is northerly, is high. This season is trying for Europeans. The meteorological summary for the year is appended to this Report.

History.

The early history of Tonga is enshrouded in myth, and any attempt to reconstruct the past is based on the list of the Tui Tonga, the ancient kings. This list has been compiled by ethnologists and dates back to the 10th century. The extent of the dominions of these ancient kings is not clearly known, but there is evidence that they possessed overlordship over a vast area of Polynesia, whence they received tribute. The kingship was hereditary and the power of the Tui Tonga was absolute. About the 15th century, after the murder of a Tui Tonga, his successor, while retaining his sacred powers, divested himself of much of his executive authority, which he transferred to his brother whom he henceforth called the Tui Haatakalaua. At this time it may be said that there were two kings in Tonga, the spiritual and the temporal. About the middle of the 17th century the temporal king transferred his executive power to a brother, retaining for himself the presentation of offerings from his people. The new chief was called the Tui Kanokupolu, and succession to the title, though not hereditary, was kept within the family. From the date of the creation of the new title the powers of the Tui Tonga and the Tui Haatakalaua gradually passed into

the hands of the Tui Kanokupolu and in the middle of the 19th century, upon the death of the then Tui Tonga, the insignia of the ancient title of the Tui Tonga were conferred upon the Tui Kanokupolu, King George I, the founder of the reigning dynasty. While the evolution of a sacred line of chiefs is not without historic parallel, the double delegation of powers renders difficult the true understanding of the ancient Tongan polity.

Evidence remains in modern Tonga of the power of the ancient kings in the form of the stone monuments which still exist. Chief of these is the Haamonga—a trilithon consisting of two large coral upright stones about 16 feet high, with a connecting stone, 19 feet long, laid horizontally across and mortised into the tops of the upright pieces, the visible parts of which are estimated to weight between 30 and 40 tons. It was probably erected about the 13th century. Tradition is not consistent as to the reason which impelled the then Tui Tonga to erect this monument, but it is evidentiary of an absolute power. Its state of preservation is excellent. Other evidence of the powers of the ancient kings is to be found in the langis, the royal burial grounds which still exist in Tonga. They consist of quadrilateral mounds, faced by huge blocks of stone, rising sometimes in terraces to a height of 20 feet. The stones are coral, of immense weight, and can only have been placed in position by the concerted labour of a large body of men skilled in the use of rollers and levers. The stones out of which the monuments were constructed were probably quarried from the coral reefs, though there is a strong traditionary evidence that many of them came from distant Polynesian islands.

From the close of the 18th century the history of Tonga can be obtained from the chronicles of Europeans who visited the islands or from European missionary sources. During the first half of the 19th century the islands were the scene of civil wars. These were finally checked during the reign of King George I who had by conquest gathered all power into his own hands. He was finally proclaimed King in 1845. King George I came strongly under missionary influence and, though his rule was absolute, he determined to grant a Constitution, based on the English model, to the Tongans. This Constitution, granted over fifty years ago, has been from time to time amended, yet in essentials the present Constitution differs little from the original. King George died in 1893, at the age of ninety-six, after a memorable reign of nearly fifty years. He was the creator of modern Tonga. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, King George II. The present monarch, Queen Salote Tubou, succeeded to the throne on the death of her father King George Tubou II in 1918.

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Tonga in 1900 and a British Agent appointed.

The language of the group is Tongan, though the laws and Government Gazettes are published in both English and Tongan.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Under the Constitution of Tonga the Government is divided into three bodies, the Queen, Privy Council, and Cabinet; the Legislative Assembly; and the Judiciary. The chief executive body is the Queen-in-Council, and executive decisions of lesser import are taken in Cabinet over which the Premier presides. The law-making power is vested in the Assembly which consists of the members of the Privy Council, seven nobles elected by their peers, and seven representatives elected by the people. Elections are held triennially. A limited law-making power is vested in the Privy Council; any legislation passed by the Executive is subject to review at the next meeting of the Legislature. At present the technical and financial departments are administered by European members of the Tongan civil service, and Tongan ministers control the other departments. The northern group of islands, Haapai and Vavau, together with the outlying islands, are administered by Tongan Governors who are members of, and responsible to, the Executive. Minor Tongan officials perform statutory duties in connexion with the village life of the people.

No constitutional changes took place during the year.

III.—POPULATION.

The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1931, was 27,700. The increase in the population during the last ten years was 16·58 per cent.

The figures for other races are as follows :—

Europeans	...	...	...	...	482
Half-castes	...	...	...	...	265
Other Pacific Islanders	...	...	...	...	336
Others	...	...	...	...	56

The incidence of the non-Tongan population has not varied appreciably during the last ten years.

The average density of population for all races is 134·13 per square mile.

The following figures show the vital statistics of the Tongan population for the five years ending 31st December last :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of</i>				<i>Births.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>
1927	976	37·65
1928	960	36·09
1929	1,010	37·25
1930	1,109	39·91
1931	1,145	40·30

As regards the sexes of the children born the following table shows the proportion for the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	1,029·1	1,000
1928	...	...	...	...	1,111·8	1,000
1929	...	...	...	...	1,048·8	1,000
1930	...	...	...	...	1,084·5	1,000
1931	...	...	...	...	1,014·1	1,000

The illegitimate births amounted to 201. The following table shows the proportion of illegitimate births to every 100 births during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Percentage.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	15·47
1928	...	...	...	...	18·54
1929	...	...	...	...	19·52
1930	...	...	...	...	16·84
1931	...	...	...	...	17·53

The following table shows the number of deaths and the death-rate for the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Number of Deaths.</i>	<i>Death-rate.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	297	11·07
1928	...	...	...	...	476	17·80
1929	...	...	...	...	424	15·65
1930	...	...	...	...	338	12·03
1931	...	...	...	...	430	15·08

The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>In per cent. of deaths.</i>	<i>In per mille of births.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	11·10	37·90
1928	...	...	...	...	19·90	64·58
1929	...	...	...	...	16·98	71·42
1930	...	...	...	...	19·20	58·80
1931	...	...	...	...	16·70	62·80

The following table sets out the total number of marriages performed and the marriage rate for the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Total Number.</i>	<i>Rate per mille of population.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	252	9·64
1928	...	...	...	...	238	8·94
1929	...	...	...	...	286	10·55
1930	...	...	...	...	285	10·30
1931	...	...	...	...	228	7·52

The Chief Justice of Tonga is the Registrar-General of births, marriages, and deaths of Tongan subjects. Registration in the case of British subjects and foreigners is provided for under the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, and Regulations made thereunder, and is effected at the office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

IV.—HEALTH.

The Medical Department of the Government of Tonga consists of four medical officers, a dentist, a European nurse, and a Tongan staff. Three Tongan students graduated at the Central Medical School in Fiji in December, and three students are in residence. The Tongans receive free medical attention. Other patients are charged fees on a scale laid down by the Executive. Fees are paid direct into revenue. The dentist receives a retaining fee from the Government. Tongans receive free treatment in cases of extractions and temporary stoppings. They are also treated freely for pyorrhoea, the incidence of which is heavy.

Provision was made for an expenditure of £8,783 on medical and health services. This sum is equivalent to 12·32 per cent. of the estimated revenue for the year. There are three hospitals in Tonga. The main hospital at Nukualofa, though it does not possess an X-ray plant, is in other respects well equipped to meet the needs of the community. It consists of European and Tongan wards, three maternity wards, in separate buildings, and a dispensary. The other hospitals are in Haapai and Vavau. They are suitable for local requirements.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. There are no estates in the commonly accepted sense of the term. Reference to the system of land tenure is made below. In recording statistical information as to the prevalence of disease it follows that the figures refer only to the home life of the people and the question of disease caused by work in factories or mines does not arise.

The following table shows the nature of the diseases treated during the year and the number of cases :—

<i>Disease.</i>		<i>Nukualofa.</i>	<i>Haapai.</i>	<i>Vavau.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Ankylostomiasis	... ..	4	—	7	11
Tetanus	... ..	3	1	1	5
Leprosy	... ..	1	—	1	2
Dengue Fever	... ..	61	1	—	62
Conjunctivitis	221	13	93	327
Trachoma	54	1	7	62
Gonorrhoea	13	—	13	26
Syphilis	—	—	1	1
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<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Nukualofa.</i>	<i>Haapai.</i>	<i>Vavau.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Yaws	246	108	157	511
Typhoid Fever	65	71	22	158
Dysentery	12	9	3	24
Tuberculosis	132	85	91	308
Pneumonia	70	3	24	97
Influenza	4,821	846	1,629	7,296
Varicella	38	—	3	41
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	3	1	1	5

Dispensary attendances amounted to 28,062 in Nukualofa, 8,171 in Haapai, and 11,175 in Vavau. During the year 64 major operations and 2,070 minor operations were performed. General anaesthetics were administered in 30 cases, local in 1,391, and spinal in 5 cases.

The total number of admissions to the three hospitals was 163.

As regards the infectious diseases treated during the year there was a large increase in the incidence of influenza. In 1929 and 1930, 3,822 and 2,865 cases respectively were reported. The disease assumed epidemic proportion in Vavau during the cool weather and rapidly spread throughout the group. On the whole the type was not severe. There was a total mortality of ten in the reported cases.

There were 25 deaths due to pneumonia. It was of the lobular type and streptococcus was found in all the sputa examined. In 1928, 1929, and 1930 there were 230, 142, and 72 cases with a total mortality of 37, 22, and 9 respectively.

The reported cases of typhoid show an increase. The figures for 1928, 1929, and 1930 were 199, 80, and 77. Approximately half of the reported cases occurred in the Haapai group where the incidence of typhoid has always been heavy. During the year 3,976 anti-typhoid inoculations were given. The total number of deaths from typhoid fever was 9.

The incidence of dysentery was light. The cases reported were 24 as against 120 and 55 in 1929 and 1930 respectively. Five deaths were ascribed to dysentery.

The reported tuberculosis cases increased from 198 and 257 in 1929 and 1930, respectively, to 308. The increase is considered apparent rather than real as certain cases reported from Haapai were previously reported from other districts. Deaths due to tuberculosis amounted to 52.

The number of reported cases of yaws was 511 as against 1,130, 643, and 604 during the previous three years. During the year 1,327 injections of Novarsenobillon were given.

The reported case of encephalitis lethargica was well marked. It dated from an attack of "illness" in Sydney when the patient was returning to Tonga from the Solomon Islands eight years ago.

The dentist treated 635 patients. Extractions numbered 1,076, fillings 298, and miscellaneous treatments 277. The cases of pyorrhoea treated amounted to 41.

The value of institutional treatment of maternity cases is becoming appreciated by the Tongans. Women are presenting themselves at the hospitals for ante-natal examination and 69 cases were admitted during the year to the recently constructed maternity wards at the hospital in Nukualofa. A ward is in course of construction in the hospital at Haapai.

As regards sanitation, the work of erecting cement latrines has been completed and the use of a standard pattern approved by the Board of Health is compulsory. Progress, though slow, is being made in the construction of cement tanks for water conservation and in the repair of existing village tanks. In the past many large tanks were built in Tonga with no catchment area except their own roofs. The village churches afforded excellent catchment but there was a repugnance among the Tongans to use the church roof for this purpose. This antipathy has now disappeared. There are no rivers or streams in Tonga and it is essential, in the interest of public health, that a complete system of rain-water conservation tanks be installed. As a prevention against typhoid and dysentery the necessity of an unpolluted supply of drinking water is apparent. During periods of drought the people are frequently dependent on well-water for general domestic purposes.

V.—HOUSING.

The Tongan native house is built of reed sides and thatched roof. It is illegal to build a house less than twelve feet in length and proportionately broad. The average size, however, is approximately twenty feet long and twelve feet broad. The native kitchen is merely a shelter built apart from the dwelling house. Ordinary pots are used for cooking purposes, but on special occasions food is always prepared in a native oven. This consists of a pit about three feet deep which is lined with stones. The stones are heated by means of a flue and the food—pork, fish, or fowl, and native root crops—is baked among the stones, which are covered with leaves and earth.

The Tongan in later years has shown a preference for the European type of house and approximately half of the houses are now of wooden construction with corrugated iron roof. These cottages consist of one or more rooms and verandah. While they lack the picturesqueness of the native house they are easier to maintain. The tendency to prefer the European type of house is accentuated by the fact that the supply of wood and thatching materials suitable for house building is limited. There is no housing problem in Tonga and a wage-earning class may be said not to exist, as the people are peasant proprietors. The houses are the property of the people. Legal provision is made for an annual inspection of houses and if any house is found to be in bad repair or badly drained it is lawful for the Tongan District Officer to order the owner to rebuild

or provide proper drainage. Provision is also made for the weeding of the land around the houses and an inspection is made in the towns every two months to ensure that town sites are kept clean.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Tonga is purely an agricultural country. The chief crop is copra and production is almost entirely confined to the Tongans. There are a few European leaseholds but the percentage of copra exported by European planters is negligible. The Tongan is a peasant proprietor and cultivates in person his statutory area of $8\frac{1}{2}$ acres to which reference is made below. Plantation labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, does not therefore exist. Approximately 20 per cent. of the coco-nut crop is consumed locally. It is used for cooking and drinking purposes, or for feeding pigs and fowl. The average annual value of the copra crop exported during the past five years has been approximately £200,000. Every Tongan taxpayer is an actual or potential copra producer. There are at present 7,500 taxpayers. European influence has not, in the past, speaking generally, had any material influence on the method of copra production by the Tongan. In modern times legislation has been passed to provide for the proper spacing of newly-planted trees, and it is now an incident of the tenure of the $8\frac{1}{2}$ acre allotment of a Tongan that one-half of the area should be planted with coco-nut trees in rows, and so arranged that the trees are thirty feet apart. The legislation further provides for the weeding and inspection of allotments. The Tongan cultivator in the past planted his coco-nut trees closely together and it is difficult to persuade the ordinary farmer that a thinning out of over-planted areas will result in an increased crop. Legislative provision was made five years ago having for its object the improvement in the quality of copra exported, and it is an offence for a trader to have in his possession bad or damaged copra. Prior to the war there was a considerable trade with New Zealand in bananas and citrus fruits, but the absence of direct communication with the Dominion, which ceased during the war, killed the trade. During the year satisfactory transport arrangements were made and banana production for export purposes recommenced. The first shipment of fruit was made in December. At the end of the year approximately 1,600 acres had been planted in bananas by individual farmers. The Tongan does not use the ordinary banana, to any degree, as a food-stuff and fruit production over market requirements would be used as feeding stuff for pigs. Sufficient experience of the fruit export trade has not yet been gained to estimate its value to the country.

The main vegetable food of the Tongan consists of yams, taro, kumalas, and plantains. The approximate area under root crops is 8,000 acres. These crops are grown for local consumption only and it would be impossible to form any accurate estimate of their value.

The soil throughout the group is very fertile and in Tongatabu European vegetables of most summer varieties are easily grown except during the hot months of December to April. They are cultivated chiefly for local consumption by Europeans. The amount produced is limited by the extent of the available market.

Live-stock production is confined, in general, to pigs, cattle, and goats. There is no export of live-stock. There are approximately 18,000 pigs in the group. They are used as a food-stuff by the Tongans and on ceremonial occasions they form an important part of the feast. Cattle are limited in number and owned chiefly by Europeans. The younger Tongan is showing a tendency to keep cows. This, however, is a modern development due to contact with Europeans. The Tongan does not as a rule sell his pigs and it would be difficult therefore to form an estimate of their value. The number of goats is negligible.

There is no mineral production in Tonga.

There are no fisheries.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
					£	£
1927	...	...	...	...	157,783	235,391
1928	...	...	...	...	211,907	287,668
1929	...	...	...	...	198,078	259,090
1930	...	...	...	...	148,306	169,610
1931	...	...	...	...	81,170	90,596

The export trade during the year was confined to copra except for a banana shipment, to which reference has been made above, in December. Copra is exported on optional bills of lading and is mostly sold on the Continent. The quantity and value of copra exports during the last five years are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
						£
1927	...	...	...	...	11,252	225,044
1928	...	...	...	...	15,671	282,083
1929	...	...	...	...	16,860	252,911
1930	...	...	...	...	14,134	169,609
1931	...	...	...	...	8,929	80,361

The imports, apart from benzine, kerosene, timber, and a small quantity of drapery, were of Empire origin. The following table shows the countries of origin and value of imports from these countries during the last five years :—

<i>Country of origin.</i>	<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>Year. 1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand	67,655	81,213	64,426	51,811	33,246
Australia	41,637	57,383	47,327	37,674	22,766
United Kingdom	22,471	34,851	36,494	29,707	9,309
Other British Territories...	14,276	13,931	16,835	11,485	6,223
United States of America...	8,822	20,487	23,482	12,065	7,377
Other Foreign Countries ...	2,922	4,042	9,513	5,564	2,249
	157,783	211,907	198,078	148,306	81,170

The volume of trade from the United Kingdom is greater than statistics indicate, as goods from the United Kingdom, which are imported from New Zealand, Australia, or Fiji, are classified in the Customs returns of the Tongan Government as imports from the latter countries. Goods classified under "Other British Territories" are imports from Fiji and a small amount from Canada. Goods classified under "Other Foreign Countries" are imports chiefly from Japan.

The details and value of the principal imports during the last five years are as follows :—

<i>General Description.</i>	<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>Year. 1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, gunny	7,374	11,403	12,315	6,721	2,798
Beer	1,525	1,823	1,748	1,661	1,092
Benzine	5,126	4,430	6,025	2,745	2,436
Biscuits	3,128	4,485	3,793	2,995	1,451
Butter	2,004	2,494	2,244	1,904	1,636
Cigars and cigarettes ...	1,003	1,006	685	920	325
Cordage and rope	1,230	1,988	1,814	1,168	716
Drapery	27,778	43,347	42,112	29,453	13,345
Flour	10,071	13,034	12,257	11,000	8,252
Galvanized ware	2,836	5,030	5,684	2,650	1,017
Hardware	6,311	9,262	8,845	6,129	3,343
Meats, tinned	27,022	29,365	22,753	21,168	10,508
Motor cars and parts ...	5,486	4,095	5,877	6,095	767
Soap	2,121	2,751	2,108	2,145	1,454
Spirits	1,960	2,103	1,910	2,017	1,186
Sugar	4,553	6,263	5,644	4,251	3,349
Timber	3,136	11,799	8,278	4,791	1,519
Tobacco	1,386	3,159	2,017	1,848	1,029

The heavy fall in copra export was due to the effects of hurricane and drought. The continued fall in the price of the commodity, together with the decreased production, had a serious effect upon trade. The position is fully illustrated by the comparative figures set out above. Local commercial houses were living, to a large

degree, on existing stocks and fresh importations were restricted to a minimum. The principal change in the direction of trade during the year was the fall in imports from the United Kingdom due to the decreased spending power of the people and the adverse exchange position. In the latter half of the year imports from the United States of America, except oils, practically ceased. Imports from the United Kingdom consist chiefly of drapery and hardware. There is a ready market for Manchester prints, suitable for native clothing, and for other cotton wearing apparel reasonably costed. The market for galvanized roofing is increasing owing to the tendency of the Tongans to substitute wooden houses for thatched cottages. The market for the British light motor car is limited. Benzine is retailed at 2s. 6d. per gallon and the advantages of the low horse-powered car in the matter of running expenses are obvious. At the end of the year 102 private cars and 70 commercial vehicles were registered in Tonga. Of these only 12 cars and 5 lorries were British. Imports from New Zealand and Australia consist chiefly of flour, tinned meats, beer, and tobacco. Gunny bags, used for sacking copra, are of Indian origin.

The import trade, as the figures illustrate, is chiefly with the United Kingdom and Empire countries. The Tongan is, for practical purposes, dependent on copra for his income, and a return to a normal export will reflect itself in trade figures and increased trade with the Empire.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

It is difficult to draw a comparison between the cost of living in the United Kingdom and Tonga on account of the general difference in conditions. The general tariff on imported goods is 12½ per cent. *ad valorem*; freight charges on imports are high. There is, on the other hand, no income-tax. Supplies of fresh meat, milk, eggs, poultry, and ice are obtainable in Nukualofa, the seat of Government. In outlying islands fresh meat, milk, and ice are not procurable. Excellent vegetables are obtainable in Nukualofa, except during the months of December to April, at reasonable prices. The following table shows the current prices of certain necessary commodities:—

Sugar	...	...	...	5d. per lb.
Tea	...	...	...	4s. per lb.
Butter	...	...	...	1s. 9d. per lb.
Flour	...	...	...	3d. per lb.
Onions	...	...	...	4d. per lb.
Eggs	...	...	...	2s. 6d. per dozen.
Bacon	...	...	...	2s. per lb.
Bread	...	...	...	6d. per 2 lb. loaf.
Meat	...	...	...	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Poultry	...	...	...	3s. a fowl.
Kerosene	...	...	...	21s. 6d. per 8 gallon case.

The only material changes during the year in these prices have been a decrease in the cost of butter by 3d. in the lb. and in bread from 7d. to 6d. for the 2 lb. loaf. Kerosene, on the other hand, has increased in price from 18s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. a case.

The household budget of an official will, on the whole, be approximately 25 per cent. higher in Tonga than in the United Kingdom.

The number of labourers employed in Tonga is negligible. The Tongan cultivates his own farm. A few Solomon Islanders, Fijians, and Indians work in the stores or on European plantations. The average wage of a store labourer is £6 to £7 a month without food. These labourers are brought from Fiji and their passages are paid by their employers. The hours of work of a labourer in stores are 9 hours a day. The Government employs Tongan labour on the roads. The unskilled man receives 5s. a day. Labourers on plantations are few in number. They receive similar wages to store labourers.

Domestic servants are expensive. Tongan men do not engage in domestic duties and Tongan girls receive a wage of £2 10s. to £3 *per mensem* and food. Indian cooks from Fiji, when procurable, receive a wage of £6 to £7 *per mensem*, with food, and in addition their fares from and to Fiji are paid by their employers.

The staple food-stuff of the Tongan is root crops grown on his own farm. He uses his pigs as a meat diet. Fish, locally caught, is extensively eaten. It would be difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy his cost of living. When labourers are rationed by employers the cost is £2 per month. They are given a diet similar to that of the Tongan.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The early history of education in Tonga is closely associated with the activities of the Christian Missions. The Government, however, decided on the establishment of State schools at an early stage in the development of the country; there are references to such schools in speeches by King George I delivered fifty years ago. In 1882 the first King founded Tonga College. He made a personal gift of the valuable site on which the College was built and also endowed it with a large area of planting land. Since its foundation over 4,000 students have been in residence.

Some years before Tonga College was founded the King had founded Tubou College. The Wesleyan Mission since 1826 had carried out educational work but the foundation of the College in 1866 marked a definite advance. Girls were admitted to Tubou College in 1870 and it is on record that girls have been captains of the whole school.

In 1888 the Roman Catholic Mission founded Api Fooou College for the further training of selected boys from parochial schools.

In the various Tongan Codes of Law which have been published during the last fifty years statutes dealing with education have been included. In 1927 a comprehensive Act was passed. Education is compulsory for all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen years. The schools, under the Education Act, are divided into three types, primary, middle, and high. The primary schools provide an elementary education in the vernacular. There are 71 Government and 44 denominational primary schools. The average daily attendance throughout the year was 4,878. The Tongan population at the census taken in April, 1931, was 27,700. Of this total 7,500 are taxpayers, i.e., males over the age of sixteen years. The number of males and females in the country is approximately the same. If, therefore, allowance is made for the children who have not reached the school age and those between the ages of 14 and 16 years, it will be seen that practically all Tongans between the ages of six and fourteen attend the primary schools. These schools provide an education in accordance with a Government syllabus and are subject to inspection. Elementary instruction is given in the three Rs, history of Tonga, geography, hygiene, singing, needlework, and native arts. The buildings of the Government primary schools were, until the year 1930, provided and maintained by the taxpayers of the villages. By an amending law of that year they are charged on general revenue. Education is free. In all primary schools there is co-education.

It has not yet been possible to establish the middle schools provided for in the Act. At these an elementary education on an English basis will be given. In the primary schools the medium of instruction is Tongan, but in several of these elementary instruction in English is now given.

The Colleges to which reference has been made above provide a general secondary education of a simple nature. They are residential.

The staff at the Government College consists of three European masters, five Tongan masters, and a bandmaster. There are 194 boys in residence. The ordinary academic subjects are taught; the medium of instruction is English. The boys grow their own food, mostly vegetables and root crops, on the College plantation. The College brass band during term gives a weekly recital in the War Memorial Band Rotunda in Nukualofa and plays on official occasions. The band was first formed in the College in 1886 under the conductorship of the grandson of the Royal founder of the College.

The Director of Education, who is also principal of the College, conducts an annual course of instruction at the College for head teachers from the primary schools during the long vacation. Instruction is practical and theoretical and the results have proved useful. For financial reasons the course was not held during the year.

Tubou College is a Free Wesleyan Church Mission school. It is now divided into two parts, the boys' school at Nafualu and the girls' at Nukualofa. Both are residential. At the end of the year there were 206 boys and 79 girls in residence. The staff at the boys' school consists of one European and four Tongans; at the girls' there is one European and one Tongan teacher. The objective of the school at Nafualu is the training of boys in academic subjects to fit them for general usefulness in the country and especially in the Church, as primary school teachers in Mission schools. In examinations conducted by the Government the record of the school is particularly good. It possesses a Museum housed in a historic Tongan church which was removed from Nukualofa and re-erected in the school grounds. The Museum building is the finest example of Tongan architecture now extant. The collection consists of over 200 exhibits.

At the girls' school the curriculum is similar to that taught in the boys' school, domestic science being substituted for the agricultural training given to the boys.

At Api Fooou College, there are 84 students in residence. The staff consists of two Europeans and six Tongans.

Secondary education for girls, apart from Mission effort, is undeveloped.

No provision is made by the Government for the education of European children. The Missions have schools which the children attend. Instruction of an elementary type only is given.

A scholarship scheme was inaugurated in 1927 under which Tongan students from the secondary schools proceed abroad for higher education. At present three scholars are in residence at Newington College, Australia, and three scholars have entered the Central Medical School, Fiji. The value of the scholarships is £150 per annum at Newington College and £100 per annum at the Medical School.

Expenditure on educational services amounted to £7,118. This sum is equivalent to 9.30 per cent. of the total expenditure of the year.

During the year an Education Commission was appointed to report, *inter alia*, upon the present administration of the Education Department, with special reference to the supervision and inspection of primary schools, the training of teachers, and the suitability or otherwise of the primary school syllabus. The Commission had not concluded its deliberations at the end of the year.

The Government of Tonga contributes to the funds of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

Games play an important part in Tongan school life. The Tongan is a keen Rugby footballer and cricketer and a particularly good tennis player. The sports meeting between Tonga College and Tubou College is one of the big events of Tongan social life. At the girls' school basket ball is extensively played.

The Tongan is a keen musician. Brass and string bands exist in most of the principal towns.

The Tongan is keen also on concerts at which European and Tongan items are performed. Considerable ability is displayed in staging simple plays which are frequently included in concert programmes.

On account of the nature of Tongan polity it is unnecessary to make any provision for orphanages or for the maintenance of persons incapacitated by sickness or accident or for the aged. In all these cases care and maintenance devolve upon the relatives who assume responsibility as a matter of course.

During the year a "European Aid Society" was formed in Nukualofa having for its object the assistance of aged Europeans. The Society is a voluntary one and is kept in funds by small uniform subscriptions from residents. It represents a modest effort on the part of Europeans to render assistance to deserving cases which have arisen in the community.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is monthly communication with Auckland by a vessel of the Union Steamship Company. This vessel, after calling at Fiji *en route*, visits three ports in Tonga and returns to Auckland via Samoa and Fiji. A call is made at Niuafouu on the voyage from Samoa to Fiji for mail purposes. The mail until last year was carried to and from the ship by swimmers as anchorage at the island is impossible. The old custom of swimming the mail was discontinued as one of the swimmers was taken by a shark. The mail is now, weather conditions permitting, transported by Tongan canoe. In addition to the monthly mail steamer eight vessels visited the Protectorate during the year for copra cargoes. Of these, two were British, five Swedish, and one American. The total tonnage of overseas vessels entered and cleared amounted to 132,867. Of this total, 87,484 was British, 29,590 Swedish, and 3,334 American.

Arrangements for direct communication with New Zealand were made during the year in connexion with the resuscitation of the fruit export trade, and the first fruit vessel called in December.

Inter-insular communication is maintained by a Government despatch boat. It is a small auxiliary ship fitted with semi-diesel engines.

Telephones and Wireless.

The Tongan Government maintains a wireless station at Nukualofa and sub-stations at Vavau, Haapai, Niuafouu, and Niutobutabu. The sub-stations communicate only with the main station. Nukualofa radio communicates with Samoa and Fiji and thence to all parts of the world. The sub-stations are equipped with locally

built continuous wave valve transmitters rated at 20 watts input. The power supplied for the valves is furnished by a battery of Leclanche-type primary cells. The sub-stations are operated by Tongans who received training locally. The system, considering the limited experience the operators have had, has worked satisfactorily.

The following table shows the traffic handled during the year and the revenue received :—

<i>Station.</i>	<i>Messages.</i>	<i>Received.</i>	<i>Despatched.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i> £
Nukualofa ...	Government	—	139	40
	Ordinary	1,161	1,121	295
Vavau ...	Government	86	87	30
	Ordinary	856	1,156	205
Haapai ...	Government	55	69	25
	Ordinary	441	507	100
Niuafouu ...	Government	7	15	5
	Ordinary	40	95	14
Niutatobutabu ...	Government	23	41	15
	Ordinary	113	184	33

Summary of Traffic Handled.

<i>Messages.</i>	<i>Words.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i> £
7,960	67,394	762

(Including British Government and other free telegrams not shown above).

The terminal charge of the Nukualofa radio for all Tongan stations is 6d. per word from abroad. The inter-insular charge is 4d.

There is a telephone system in Nukualofa which is administered by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. There are 77 subscribers.

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure on wireless and telephone services during the year :—

<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Wireless Fees</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	£
	Telephone Fees	...	...	...	387
					<hr/> £1,149 <hr/>
<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Personal Emoluments</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	£
	Other charges	...	...	...	468
	Extraordinary expenditure	...			134
					<hr/> £2,063 <hr/>

The wireless operators in the sub-stations perform also the duties of district clerks and are paid from the vote of the department to which they are attached.

Roads.

There are approximately 40 miles of metalled road in Tongatabu and fourteen miles in Vavau suitable for motor traffic. The by-roads are graded earth roads ; they are unsuitable for heavy traffic during rains.

There are no railways in the islands.

Posts.

Postal communication with the outside world is maintained by the monthly vessel of the Union Steamship Company. Foreign mails are also despatched by copra vessels. The Collectors of Customs act as Postmasters at the three ports. There are sub-post offices in some of the main villages of Tongatabu. British postal orders are issued at the chief post offices. Money orders are also issued. During the year the total value of stamps sold amounted to £752. Money orders to a value of £20,162 were issued and orders to a value of £663 paid. Postal orders issued and paid amounted in value to £417 and £9 respectively.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**Banking.**

A Government Savings Bank was established in 1926. The following statistics show the operations of the Bank since its institution :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Deposits.</i>				<i>Withdrawals.</i>
				£	£
1926	3,495	558
1927	7,929	3,900
1928	12,341	9,713
1929	11,359	8,528
1930	23,689	14,228
1931	15,930	11,358

The total amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £26,459.

The number of depositors at the end of the year was :—

Tongans	...	...	...	...	403
Europeans and others	...	...	...	...	160

Interest at the rate of 4 per cent. is allowed on the first £500 deposited and at the rate of 3 per cent. for an additional amount up to £1,000.

The invested funds of the Bank amount to £23,600.

There is no other bank in Tonga.

There are no Building, Co-operative, or Friendly Societies.

Currency.

British and Australian coin was made the currency of Tonga by a Statute passed by the Tongan Parliament in 1906. Tongan Government notes were issued in 1919; at the present time notes to the value of £21,268 are in circulation. The issue is secured by a coin and investment reserve.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are, by Statute, the standard weights and measures of the country.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Works Department of the Government of Tonga consists of an Engineer, a Foreman, a Travelling Foreman, a Fitter, a Blacksmith, a Roads Foreman, and a Tongan staff. Works beyond the capacity of the local Department are carried out by contractors abroad. The Department possesses plant and rolling stock suitable for local requirements. During the year, for financial reasons, works were reduced to a minimum. The activities of the Department were confined to maintenance work on public buildings and on the roads. No works extraordinary were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There are two jurisdictions in Tonga, the British and the Tongan.

The British Agent holds a commission as a Deputy Commissioner of His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court for the Western Pacific. He is a Judicial Commissioner in Divorce. Under the provisions of the Treaty of 1900, jurisdiction in civil matters is exercised by the British Court over British subjects and foreigners. The British Court has jurisdiction in probate and divorce matters where British subjects and foreigners are parties. In criminal cases British subjects and foreigners charged with an offence against the laws of Tonga, not including crimes punishable by death or by imprisonment exceeding two years, are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Tonga. The reserved cases are justiciable in the British Court.

The jurisdiction of the British Court is exercised in conformity with the provisions of the Pacific Order in Council of 1893. The principles of British law, so far as circumstances admit, are applied. The judicial work of the British Agent is light. During the year one criminal and twelve civil cases were heard and determined, seven grants of probate and administration issued, and one divorce petition was heard.

The Courts of the Tongan Government have full jurisdiction over Tongans and the limited jurisdiction stated above over British subjects and foreigners. The Tongan judicial system is based on the British model, and trial by jury, in cases where the accused are Tongans, is provided for in the Constitution.

The Justice Department of the Government of Tonga consists of the Chief Justice, the Land Judge, a European Magistrate, and three Tongan Magistrates. The Supreme Court exercises jurisdiction in all civil cases in which the amount claimed exceeds £50 and in all criminal cases where the maximum penalty exceeds a fine of £50 or two years' imprisonment; other cases are heard in the Magistrates' Courts. Where the person charged is a European the case is heard and determined by the European Magistrate if it comes within magisterial jurisdiction; other cases are tried by the Chief Justice sitting with two European assessors.

The Land Court Judge, sitting with a Tongan assessor, hears and determines land claims.

Serious crime among the Tongan people is of infrequent occurrence.

The following table shows the number of indictments which have been tried by the Chief Justice during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>Number of Indictments.</i>	<i>Convictions.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	35	30
1928	...	...	...	...	31	26
1929	...	...	...	...	34	30
1930	...	...	...	...	34	25
1931	...	...	...	...	24	12

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard and determined in the Magistrates' Courts during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>					<i>No. of Cases.</i>	<i>Convictions.</i>	<i>Acquittals.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	5,805	4,520	1,285
1928	...	...	...	...	4,645	3,507	1,138
1929	...	...	...	...	4,646	3,270	1,376
1930	...	...	...	...	4,393	2,887	1,411
1931	...	...	...	...	2,590	1,839	727

Twenty-four cases were committed for trial.

The majority of the criminal cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts were for minor municipal and traffic offences.

The following table shows the number of convictions recorded during the last five years for the cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Courts other than municipal and traffic offences.

<i>Offence.</i>					<i>Year.</i>				
					<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>1929.</i>	<i>1930.</i>	<i>1931.</i>
Theft	...	...	...	...	86	71	96	115	135
Trespass	...	...	...	...	58	25	30	42	19
Other offences against property	...	...	...	...	7	17	11	17	15
Assault	...	...	...	...	69	65	64	53	55
Fighting	...	...	...	...	14	16	18	9	21
Cruelty to animals	...	...	...	...	76	141	102	137	118

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows :—

Fines	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,675
Peremptory imprisonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Whipping or whipping and imprisonment...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation among the Tongans. During the year eight civil cases came before the Supreme Court and 1,697 actions were heard in the Magistrates' Courts.

There is an appeal from a Magistrate's decision to the Chief Justice in all civil cases and in every criminal case except when the defendant pleads guilty.

During the year the Chief Justice heard twenty-seven appeals, sixteen criminal and eleven civil. In the criminal appeals the sentences and fines imposed by the Magistrates were affirmed in three cases, in nine cases sentences were reduced, one case was remitted back, and two appeals were allowed. In the civil appeals the Magistrates' decisions were upheld in six cases, four cases were remitted back, and one appeal was allowed.

The Supreme Court heard ten cases in divorce. Decrees absolute were granted in all cases except one.

The Supreme Court in its probate jurisdiction granted Letters of Administration in one hundred and five cases. The following table shows the number of Grants of Probate or Letters of Administration which issued out of the Court during the last five years :—

<i>Year.</i>							<i>Number.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
1928	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
1929	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
1930	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	105

The total value of estates in 1931 was £9,790.

There are eighteen Tongan lawyers practising in the Courts. Licences to practise are issued by the Chief Justice. There is no educational qualification imposed, but the Chief Justice has a discretionary power to refuse to issue a licence to undesirable persons.

Police.

The Police Department is in charge of a Tongan Minister who is also the Public Prosecutor. The Department has a strength of one European Inspector, three Tongan Inspectors, and forty-five non-commissioned officers and men. The Tongan police, when called upon to do so, assist His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner's Court in making arrests and enforcing judgments.

The total expenditure of the Force for all services was £5,127. The cost of the Police per head of population was 3s. 6d.

The number of persons prosecuted by the Police for offences of all kinds during the last five years is as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>						<i>Number.</i>
1927	...	...	...	...	...	3,897
1928	...	...	...	...	...	3,679
1929	...	...	...	...	...	3,605
1930	...	...	...	...	...	3,487
1931	...	...	...	...	...	2,496

The great majority of these prosecutions were for offences of a trivial nature.

All traffic is controlled by the Force, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination of drivers.

In addition to ordinary police duties the Force is responsible for the inspection of villages and road frontages and the taking of the annual census.

Prisons.

The Minister of Police is in charge of the prisons. There is a main gaol at Nukualofa with sub-gaols at Haapai, Vavau, and the two Niuas. There is also a sub-gaol on the Government Agricultural Station at Vaikeli where prisoners grow food-stuffs for the Prison and Police Departments. Juvenile offenders are confined in the latter sub-gaol apart from adult prisoners. Crime among juveniles is very rare. All prisoners undergoing a sentence of over six months imprisonment are confined in the Nukualofa gaol. The number of prisoners in custody on 1st January and 31st December in the Nukualofa gaol was 42 and 35 respectively.

The main gaol at Nukualofa consists of two main wooden buildings, a woman's gaol, and a hospital. There is no provision for the confinement of prisoners in separate cells.

The sub-gaols consist of small wooden buildings suitable for local requirements.

Prisoners are visited regularly by the Medical Officer. The health of prisoners throughout the year was satisfactory.

Prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct. The maximum remission for prisoners undergoing a first term of imprisonment is one quarter of the sentence.

Orders for payments of fines made in the Magistrates' Courts are not enforced for fourteen days after the making of the order. If the law under which the order is made does not provide for imprisonment in default of payment a warrant of distress is then issued. In default of distress a warrant of commitment issues ordering a defendant to be imprisoned in respect of the sum still remaining unsatisfied by the distress for any term not exceeding the term specified in respect of a like sum in the scale of imprisonment provided in the Magistrates Act.

Provision is made in Tongan law for the probation of offenders. When any person is convicted of an offence, and the Court is of opinion, having regard to the character, age, health or mental condition of the person charged, or to the trivial nature of the offence, or to the extenuating circumstances under which it was committed, that it is inexpedient to inflict any other than a nominal punishment, or that it is expedient to release the offender on probation, the Court may, in lieu of imposing a sentence of imprisonment, make an order discharging the offender conditionally on his entering into a recognizance, with or without securities, to be of good behaviour and to appear for sentence when called upon at any time during such period not exceeding three years as may be specified in the order. When a probation order is made the Court is required to furnish the offender with a notice in writing stating in simple terms the conditions he is required to observe.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Acts were passed at the 1931 Session of the Tongan Parliament :—

1. The 1931–32 Appropriation Act.
2. The 1929–30 Supplementary Appropriation Act.
3. The Coinage Act Amendment Act.
4. The Drugs and Poisons Act Amendment Act.
5. The Criminal Offences Act Amendment Act.
6. Disinterment of Bodies and Desecration of Graves Act.
7. The Magistrates Act Amendment Act.
8. Public Health Act Amendment Act.
9. The Firearms Act Amendment Act.
10. The Customs Duties Act Amendment Act.
11. The Motor Traffic Act Amendment Act.

Act No. 3 prohibits the export of gold or silver coin without a permit from the Cabinet.

Act No. 5.—In the Tongan criminal code minimum sentences were prescribed for various offences. The Act conferred upon the Court a discretionary power in the fixing of a sentence.

Act No. 7.—In Tongan law a Magistrate could not proceed with a case in the defendant's absence even after service of process was proved. This was a provision found in old codes which was perpetuated. The amendment permits the case to proceed after proof of service.

Act No. 10 increased the duty from £1 5s. and £1 per proof and liquid gallon to £1 8s. and £1 3s. in the case of overproof and underproof spirits respectively.

The other Acts do not call for comment.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

1. The Fruit Export Ordinance.
2. The Boxing Matches (Regulation) Ordinance.

In Tongan law the Queen-in-Council is empowered to pass Ordinances between the meetings of the Legislature. Ordinances so passed are placed before Parliament at its next subsequent meeting and, if agreed to, are passed as Acts.

Ordinance No. 2 was passed to regulate boxing matches. A permit from the police and a medical certificate of fitness are now necessary before a match can take place. The Tongan had developed an insatiable enthusiasm for boxing and it was found necessary to regulate the position.

The following Regulations were passed :—

1. Diseases of Plants.
2. Postal Orders.
3. Fruit Export.
4. Land Act.
5. Motor Traffic.

The Postal Orders Regulation empowered the Controller, with the consent of the Executive, to fix an extra poundage on postal orders. It was necessary to pass the Regulation on account of the exchange position.

The other Regulations passed call for no comment.

There is no factory legislation in Tonga. The country is purely agricultural.

There is no legislative provision for sickness or old age. In Tongan polity the sick or the aged are cared for by relatives who, as stated above, assume responsibility as a matter of course.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Tongan financial year ends on 30th June. The revenue and expenditure totals for each of the last five years are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1926-27	72,562	83,513
1927-28	86,626	83,208
1928-29	96,887	76,709
1929-30	89,505	85,442
1930-31	70,663	78,500

There is no public debt, and at the close of the last financial year the surplus funds of the country amounted to £140,495. These funds are invested in United Kingdom War Bonds, New Zealand,

Australian, Straits Settlements, Kenya and Nigeria Stock, and in fixed deposits with the Bank of New Zealand in Sydney and Auckland.

The main heads of taxation are the native tax, Customs dues, and trading licences.

The following table shows the yield of the Customs dues and native tax during the last five years :—

Year.					Customs.	Native Tax.
					£	£
1926-27	...	...	...	...	30,122	13,579
1927-28	...	...	...	...	36,582	12,719
1928-29	...	...	...	...	47,171	11,780
1929-30	...	...	...	...	41,902	11,919
1930-31	...	...	...	...	27,026	11,677

The general tariff on imported goods is $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The principal specific duties are as follows :—

Beer, per gallon	...	...	...	...	1s. 6d.
Benzine, per gallon	...	...	...	...	4d.
Cigarettes, per lb.	...	...	...	...	8s.
Flour, per 150 lb.	...	...	...	...	2s. 3d.
Kerosene of 150 degrees or over, closed flash test, per gallon	...	...	...	...	3d.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is proof or overproof, per proof gallon	...	...	...	...	28s.
Spirits of all kinds, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer and is under-proof, per liquid gallon	...	...	...	...	23s.
Sugar, per lb.	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Timber, undressed, per 100 s. ft.	...	...	...	...	1s. 6d.
Timber, dressed, per 100 s. ft.	...	...	...	...	2s.
Tobacco, manufactured, per lb.	...	...	...	...	5s.

The principal articles on the free list are :—

Bags, new, for copra.

Agricultural machinery and implements.

There is an export tax on copra of £1 per ton.

There are no excise duties.

The principal stamp duties on documents are :—

Agreement or memorandum of agreement (whether the same be evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written document).

Where the value amounts to £1 but does not exceed £3	2d.
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Where the value exceeds £3 but does not exceed £10	1s.
Where the value exceeds £10 then for every additional £10 and also for every fractional part of £10 (but not to exceed ten shillings on any such document).	2s.
Bill of Lading and each copy	1s.
Bill of Exchange—	
(1) Payable on demand or at sight or on presentation	2d.
(2) Payable otherwise than on demand, sight, or presentation, drawn or expressed to be payable in or actually paid or endorsed in any manner negotiated in the Kingdom.	
For any sum not exceeding £50	1s.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	1s.
Promissory Note of any kind.	
(Except a Bank Note or Currency Note).	
For any sum not exceeding £5	2d.
Exceeding £5 and not exceeding £25	6d.
For every additional £25 and also for every fractional part of £25	6d.
(Exemption—All Bills of Exchange or promissory notes issued by any bank for Government purposes to the Treasurer).	
Lease or agreement for a lease or any written document for the tenancy or occupancy of any lands or buildings.	
The following duties in respect of the rent at the rate per annum :	
Where the rent does not exceed £25	2s.
Where the rent exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	5s.
Above £50, for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	5s.
Conveyance or transfer.	
(1) of any lease	5s.
(2) on sale of any goods whether included in a transfer of a lease or not for every £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2s.
Mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant.	
(1) Being the only or principal or primary security for the payment or repayment of any money not exceeding £50	2s.
For every additional £50 and also for every fractional part of £50	2s.

- (2) Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture, or covenant, and also where any further money is added to the money already secured. (The same rate of duty as (1).)
- (3) Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional, or substituted security, or by way of further assurance for the above mentioned purposes :
 Where the principal or primary security is duly stamped 2s.
- (4) Reconveyance, release, or discharge of any such security as aforesaid or the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured ... 2s.

Receipt.

Given for or upon the payment of money.

Amounting to £2 or upwards but not exceeding £50	... ..	2d.
Exceeding £50 or upwards but not exceeding £100	... ..	4d.
Exceeding £100	... ..	6d.

(Exemptions.

Receipts given for or upon the payment of money to or for the use of the Government of Tonga.

Receipts or discharges given by any person for the payment of wages or salary.

Receipts given for contributions for charitable institutions or religious bodies.)

All male Tongans, when they attain the age of sixteen years, pay a poll tax of 36s. per annum. The yield of the tax during the last five years is set out above. A register of taxpayers is kept by the district tax clerk. This register is revised annually from a list of taxpayers prepared by the District Officer. The tax is paid direct to the district clerk by the taxpayer. Exemption from the tax may be granted on the grounds of old age or sickness.

There is no hut tax.

XVI.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Tongan land system is, in many respects, unique. In historic times the Tongan lived on his farm rather than in village communities; the communal land ownership which is met with in parts of the Pacific is unknown in Tonga. In the 18th century the troubled condition of the land drove the peasant proprietors to take refuge together in fortresses, and out of these fortresses the modern village has grown. The remains of many old trenches

exist to-day. Although the necessity for living together for purposes of mutual protection disappeared in the middle of last century, the people did not revert to their old mode of life and the town is now an accepted part of Tongan polity.

The historic system of land tenure was feudal. The great chiefs held of the King and they sub-divided their lands among their followers. Through the chiefs the King received tribute and they in turn exacted feudal dues from the people. In the first Constitution of Tonga, granted by the King over fifty years ago, it was expressly enacted that the Kingdom was the King's. The King, however, confirmed in their ancestral holdings the high chiefs and out of the royal and chiefs' estates holdings were granted to the people. In course of time a grant which was made in return for service in cash or kind became the right of the people and a law was passed which entitled every Tongan, when he became a taxpayer, to two holdings, a house site in the village, and tax lands in the bush.

It is not possible, within the limits of this Report, to develop further the evolution of the Tongan land system ; it is felt, however, that a brief reference to the system of the past is necessary before the present system of tenure is shortly described.

Every Tongan male, when he attains the age of sixteen and thereby becomes a taxpayer, is entitled to a tax allotment of $8\frac{1}{4}$ acres in the bush and a town site not exceeding 132 feet square. He obtains the grant upon application to the Minister of Lands. The Minister makes the allotment from the estate of the chief on which the applicant resides. If land is not available on such estate the allotment is made from the estate of another chief who is willing to provide it. If no allotment is made under this latter provision Crown land is utilized. If the applicant is already resident on Crown land, the allotment is made therefrom in the first place. The rental for the tax allotment is 8s. per annum. It is paid to the Crown or the chief according to where the allotment is made. No rent is charged for the village site.

Provision is made in law for ejectment for non-payment of rent or for a non-compliance with the planting section of the law. It is mandatory on every holder, as an incident of tenure, within one year of the grant to plant 200 coco-nut trees on his allotment, properly spaced as provided by law. Provision is made for the survey and registration of grants. Upon the death of a holder his widow is entitled to a life estate in the allotment and devolution is expressly provided for. No Tongan may hold two tax allotments, but he may obtain a lease of an extra area.

Provision was made in 1927 to enable a Tongan to receive, upon application made, in lieu of the grants referred to, an area of $12\frac{3}{4}$ acres of tax land in the bush for which he pays a rental of 4s. If he obtains such allotment, he is not eligible for a town site. It was

hoped by reducing the rental and increasing the area to induce the people to live on the land rather than in the village. It was also hoped that Tongans who lived in congested islands would transfer to other islands where the larger areas at the reduced rentals were available. So far only eleven applications have been received for the 12½-acre blocks.

Without the consent of the Executive no chief or allotment holder may grant a lease or make any agreement in respect of his land. The mortgaging of growing crops is illegal.

It is a curious fact that many Tongans do not take advantage of their statutory right to land. There is no compulsion to apply. At the present time allotments are held by 6,882 taxpayers and 433 widows; there are 1,434 taxpayers who have not applied for an allotment. The non-holders have increased by 199 during the year. These persons live in towns or on their fathers' cultivated allotments to which they hope in time to succeed. In other cases there is a disinclination to leave an island which is fully settled. Ample land is available for a full development of the land system and if every taxpayer was an allotment holder approximately one-half of the area of the country would still be available for distribution.

The interest of a Tongan in land, whether he is a chief or a commoner, is a life estate. His ownership is limited in point of disposition; it possesses certain attributes of an estate in fee tail which the holder for life cannot bar. The land system is of interest as being an example of a system grafted by law upon the polity of a people and becoming a leading feature of that polity.

The survey work performed by the Government surveyors consisted in demarcating tax and town allotments. Lease and road surveys were also carried out. The number of European leases in Tonga is 1,580 of a total area of 7,393 acres. The majority of the leases, apart from residences in the towns, consist of store sites and the small trading stations of the large commercial houses.

J. S. NEILL,

*His Britannic Majesty's Agent and
Consul, Tonga.*

BRITISH AGENCY AND CONSULATE,
TONGA.

12th July, 1932.

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1931.

Nukualofa Station.

(Lat. 21-7-58.6 S. Long. 175-11-59.1 W.)

Monthly Means.

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Baro- meter.</i>	<i>Dry Bulb.</i>	<i>Wet Bulb.</i>	<i>Relative Humid- ity.</i>	<i>Max. Temp.</i>	<i>Min. Temp.</i>	<i>Rain- fall.</i>	<i>Wind.</i>
				<i>Per cent.</i>				
Jan. ...	29.888	81.0	75.3	76.1	84.1	73.0	1.62	ESE
Feb. ...	29.817	80.8	73.6	70.0	84.7	73.1	0.44	ESE
Mar. ...	29.917	78.3	74.6	83.7	82.1	73.5	19.58	ESE'ly
April ...	29.983	79.8	76.0	83.0	83.0	74.1	1.22	E'ly
May ...	30.022	75.0	70.9	81.0	79.2	68.4	3.11	ESE'ly
June ...	30.054	72.3	68.9	83.3	76.7	65.8	12.60	SE'ly
July ...	30.073	72.5	67.7	77.2	77.2	66.1	2.97	E'ly
Aug. ...	30.004	72.6	67.6	76.2	76.6	66.3	8.34	ESE'ly
Sept. ...	30.023	73.4	68.4	77.0	77.2	65.3	6.97	SE'ly
Oct. ...	29.987	74.3	69.5	78.1	78.0	65.9	2.35	SE'ly
Nov. ...	29.947	76.1	72.1	81.7	79.3	69.8	8.68	ESE'ly
Dec. ...	29.913	79.0	73.8	77.8	82.3	70.3	1.60	E'ly
Means ...	29.969	76.2	71.5	78.7	80.0 74.6	69.3	69.48 Total	ESE'ly

*Barometer.**Humidity.**Air Temperature.*

Highest: 30.230 on 9th 100 per cent. on 4th, 18th 87° on 20th April.
June.

March and 15th June.

Lowest: 29.268 on 4th 51.5 per cent. on 23rd 56.2° on 22nd September.
March. August.

Cyclonic Storms: Storm Niuafoou, 15th-16th February. Storm Haapai and Nukualofa, 4th March. Haapai, lowest barometer 29.16, wind NE 9-11. Nukualofa, lowest barometer 29.268, wind SSE var. 7-9.

Number of days on which rain fell: 171.

Most rain in any 24-hour period: 8.52 inches on 6th June.

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121.	9d. (10d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.)	1s. (1s. 5d.).
Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery.	2s. (2s. 2d.).
Wool Quality : A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth.	£1 1s. (£1 1s. 9d.).
Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927-30. (E.M.B. 46.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings.	2s. 6d. (2s. 11d.).
Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
Survey of Vegetable Oilseeds and Oils. Vol. I. Oil Palm Products. (E.M.B. 54.)	1s. (1s. 4d.).
Canned and Dried Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 55.)	1s. (1s. 3d.).
The Demand for Canned Vegetables. (E.M.B. 56.)	1s. (1s. 1d.).
Wool Survey. A Summary of Production and Trade in the Empire and Foreign Countries. (E.M.B. 57.)	2s. (2s. 6d.).
Cattle Breeding in Jamaica and Trinidad. (E.M.B. 58.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
The Storage of Tropicallly-grown Tomatoes. (E.M.B. 59.)	1s. (1s. 2d.).
Control of Wastage in Bananas, with special reference to Time and Temperature Factors. (E.M.B. 60.)	1s. (1s. 4d.).

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